

Tomorrow

Doctor's orders
A government report
calls for major reform
of the health service

Prize...
Spectrum looks at the
making of a Booker
Prize winner

...guise
Inside a new motor
show model

Relief in Beirut at US pledge to keep marines

● The Lebanese Government was delighted last night to hear President Reagan's reassurance that the US had "vital interests" in Lebanon and would maintain its peacekeeping contingent.

● The French Force will remain, President Mitterrand announced on his return from Beirut.

● Although Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, told the Commons there was no present intention of withdrawing the British troops, he clearly shared the misgivings of many MPs on their role.

● The Reagan Administration must now clarify the role of its contingent to reassure Congress, the media and the American public.

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Fearful that the United States might have been about to abandon Lebanon after Sunday's suicide bombing attacks in Beirut that left well over 200 American and French troops dead, the Lebanese Government reacted with delight last night to President Reagan's statement that the United States had "vital interests" in Lebanon.

At the same time, Lebanese officials were expressing the deepest concern in private that the French might reduce their troop strength in Beirut, perhaps withdrawing their entire contingent within a few months.

State radio stations in Lebanon last night repeatedly broadcast Mr Reagan's words, which were taken to mean that President Gemayel's Government can now count on the continuing political as well as military support of Washington.

President Mitterrand, of France, arrived unannounced in Beirut during the morning, held a series of long talks with Mr Gemayel and then commented enigmatically that he might make a statement on his return to Paris.

M Mitterrand spent some time at the scene of the bombing attack on French

paratroopers in the Beirut suburb of Ramlet el-Baida. He emerged from the experience stony-faced and clearly shocked.

All day at the scenes of the two huge bomb explosions - the US marine battalion headquarters near the airport and the nine-story building which housed a company of French

paratroopers - soldiers of the multinational force and Lebanese civil defence workers scrambled through the masses of concrete under which dozens of men still lay crushed. Corpses were being found in such numbers yesterday that the casualty figures were being amended by the Americans ten at a time.

By last night the marines had discovered the bodies of 183 of their men and believed that 50 others still lay beneath the hundreds of tons of concrete that collapsed when a suicide bomber drove a truck laden with 2,000lbs of TNT into the building on Sunday morning. A marine officer said bluntly that

there was "no hope" for those still missing.

The French reported 23 dead but conceded that 25 more were still beneath the ruins of their makeshift barracks; they do not expect to find any of them alive.

Amid the rubble of the French headquarters, soldiers could be seen standing with dark blankets, every half hour or so carrying them to a crack in the cement out of which was carried the broken body of a paratrooper. The figure covered in the blanket would then be taken down to a military ambulance and driven to the French Ambassador's residence escorted by three French troops carrying automatic weapons.

Piles of coffins waited in the French compound while at Beirut airport a forklift truck had to be used to carry the coffins of the dead marines and Navy men, 12 at a time - on to an American military transport aircraft.

In some cases neither the marines nor the French paratroopers could be sure how many dead they had found. A marine major said that "In many cases, we don't have a whole individual." Even the Lebanese Press inured to violence of this kind

Continued on back page, col 2

Reagan insists 'We stay in Beirut'

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

As the death toll from Sunday's bomb blasts in Beirut continued to mount, President Reagan yesterday stoutly defended the decision to keep American troops in Lebanon. "We have vital interests in Lebanon and our actions in Lebanon are in the cause of world peace," he said.

He said the attack on the US Marines headquarters which left 183 servicemen dead and scores wounded, was a "horrifying reminder of the type of enemy we face in many areas around the world today - vicious, cowardly and ruthless."

The President repeated the assertion that Iran or Iraqis may have been behind the blast. He pledged that the US would make every effort to find those responsible for the outrage. "They will not go unpunished."

Both in his speech and in talks with congressional leaders, the President sought to allay criticism that his Administration was without a coherent policy in the Middle East and that the Marines had lost their lives in vain.

A number of congressmen have called for the Marines to be pulled out; others have threatened to cut off funding for the peace-keeping operation; still more have called for the

1973 War Powers Act to be invoked.

Emphasising that the US would not be intimidated by terrorists, he declared that peace in Lebanon was indivisible with peace in the Middle East. Because of the strategic importance of the region the US could not stand by and allow it to fall under the influence of the Soviet Union.

Shortly before Mr Reagan spoke General Paul Kelley, Commander of the Marine Corps, left Washington for Beirut where he is to see how the American contingent of the multi-national force can be protected from similar attacks in the future.

Additional Marines were due to fly out shortly to replace those killed and wounded during the attack. The names of the dead have not yet been released.

While the President was trying to reassure the American public opinion, Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, was on the telephone to the foreign ministers of Britain, France and Italy - the partners in the MNF - to discuss future moves in Lebanon. All of the allies have expressed their determination to continue with the peace-keeping mission.

MPs' fears shared by Howe

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Fresh doubts about the role of the British contingent in the Lebanon were expressed in a debate in the Commons yesterday and the responses of Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, to many probing questions revealed plainly that he shared the misgivings of MPs.

Sir Geoffrey said that there was no present intention of changing either the role or the size of the British force, but he repeatedly spoke of the urgency of all parties in the Lebanon settling their differences by negotiation.

Sir Geoffrey did not dissent from the observations of Mr Denis Healey, Labour spokesman on foreign affairs, that the loss of life among the American and French contingents on Sunday was "Bound to increase doubts about the role and purpose of the multinational force."

Mr Healey, again speaking for MPs on both sides of the House, said that when the horror of Sunday's events was still fresh it was not the best time for taking decisions which would have long-term consequences.

Continued on back page, col 1

Pressure for mortgage rate cut

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Mortgage rates may fall within the next couple of months, possibly as early as December, because of the huge amounts of savings flooding into the building societies and pressure from Abbey National.

Abbey National, the building society which undermined the movement's interest rate cartel, is now pushing for an early cut in the mortgage rate of up to 1 per cent from the present 11.25 per cent.

Mr Clive Thornton, its chief executive who leaves shortly to become chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers, has written to the Building Societies Association asking for an early meeting to discuss a drop in the rate.

Record amounts of cash are

going into the building societies because of the high interest rates being offered to savers. With mortgage queues falling sharply, Abbey believes the time is right for a cut in the home loan rate.

The BSA said that the net inflow in October would be more than £1 billion - well above the previous record of £950m in last October and comfortably above September's £834m.

"That would certainly suggest it was time to consider a drop in the mortgage rate," a spokesman said.

Although the societies formally abandoned their rates cartel last week and are now free to move the mortgage rate independently, they have agreed

to give each other advance warning. The BSA will also still "advise" on rates.

It says the issue will be discussed at the next meeting of the chairman's committee on November 9 and by the full council two days later.

Most societies believe rates are on the way down although views differ about when. Mr Peter Manning, chief general manager of Leeds Permanent said yesterday: "The general trend is downward but whether it will be December or January, I would not like to speculate."

However, the Abbey appears determined to push ahead. Mr Brian Firmin, divisional manager marketing said yesterday: "We are trying to force the issue a bit."

Police close to finding dead woman's identity

The police officers leading the search for Mrs Diane Jones, the missing doctor's wife, was yesterday helping Suffolk detectives with their inquiry into the murder of a woman whose body was found near Ipswich.

The Suffolk police could not, however, confirm that the body, which suffered head injuries from a brutal attack, was that of Mrs Jones.

The head of Suffolk CID, Det Chief Supt Eric Shields, said he was "most of the way towards identifying the body, found in a roadside copse at the weekend."

He said: "We are about three-quarters of the way there but we

need some more confirmation. That is why we are talking to Essex officers."

Dr Robert Jones, husband of the missing woman, said from his father's house in St David's, Dyfed, west Wales: "Police have told me there is no reason for me to return to Essex because they have not established any connection between the body and Diane."

Suffolk police said later: "He has not been given that assurance by Suffolk police. Until we can establish an identity we have got to keep an open mind."

'Freed' Richardson vanishes

By Rupert Morris

Charles Richardson, the London gangland leader, was on the run last night after failing to return to prison from a weekend at home.

It is the second time Mr Richardson has absconded since he was jailed for 25 years in 1967 for grievous bodily harm and robbery with violence. He went missing from an open prison in 1980 and was re-arrested seven months later.

It is Home Office policy for prisoners due for parole to be allowed a short stay at home in advance of their release "in order to ease them back into society".

His family telephoned the



A grim President Mitterrand inspecting the carnage in Beirut

New target set for BR cuts

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government set tough new financial targets yesterday for British Rail, telling it to speed up its planned efficiency savings so that a cut of almost £200m in the central grant for passenger services can be made by 1986 instead of 1988.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, announced that the grant for this year would be £819m, £40m less than that requested by the railways board, and asked it to accelerate by two years the achievement of its forecast for 1988 of a grant reduced to £635m.

This will mean that the 17,000 job losses envisaged by the board in its 1983 corporate plan as the main part of its efforts to achieve the 1988 target will have to be completed two years earlier if the new objective is to be achieved.

The announcement brought an angry reaction last night from rail unions and the Labour Party.

Mr Robert Hughes, an opposition transport spokesman, said in the Commons that the reductions could only be accommodated by service cuts, line closures, fare rises and accelerated job losses, and offered not a glimmer of hope to passengers or rail workers.

Mr Raymond Buckton, general secretary of the train drivers' union, Aslef, described the move as a tragedy. He said "It is the public who will suffer - now two years earlier. There would be more slow trains and standing room only, while industrial relations would fall to an even lower ebb. The Government's 'objectives' for British Rail were set out in

a letter from Mr Ridley to Mr Bob Reid, the new board chairman, who said last night that they called for hard work, and "acceptance of further change by railway staff at all levels."

Mr Ridley told him that it was the board's responsibility to determine fares, but added: "Improved efficiency must make a full contribution to keeping down fares."

He said it was not the Government's intention "that you should embark on a programme of major route closures" but asked for the board's views on practicability of introducing some subsidised substitute bus services where appropriate.

Mr Reid was told to achieve a 5 per cent profit in 1988 on the freight business, which the rail board sees coming into profit by 1986, and to win as much freight traffic from roads as possible, within the financial target.

Mr Ridley also asked for improvements in the railways' industrial relations machinery, proposals from the board for more private sector participation in the development of stations and railway services, and the preparation of Sealink for privatisation as soon as possible.

The statement of objectives from Mr Ridley follows the Government's examination of the Serpell report. The minister said it put paid to the "scare stories" about the network which followed publication of Serpell. Mr Ridley told a press conference last night that the objectives were tough but went in the right direction.

Lawson will stick to cash limits

From Ian Murray, Luxembourg

British public spending will be held to its £126,400m target for the next financial year, Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, reiterated here after a meeting of EEC finance ministers, he said. Britain was "at the top of the Community growth league" and he would ensure it stayed there.

The battle against inflation would continue, Mr Lawson believed it would peak at the turn of the year and begin to fall. Restricting spending was essential.

He admitted there had been large demands from different government departments but these had been reduced and the gap was much smaller than the £6,000m which had been suggested.

The remaining amount - £1,000m - was likely to be pared away by the Cabinet when it prepared the autumn financial statement next month.

Mr Lawson said there was no question of reducing unemployment benefit. That money was pledged, and the pledge would be honoured.

Health spending would continue to rise but probably not as much. There was, he said, no limit to the demand and the country had to decide how much it could afford.

Britain would honour its Nato commitments by increasing defence spending by 3 per cent next year.

Back to Helsinki, page 8

Nilsen admitted killing 15 men, court told

By David Nicholson-Lord

Dennis Nilsen, the civil servant and former probationary police constable charged with six murders and two attempted murders, told the police he had killed 15 or 16 men and tried to kill seven more, a Central Criminal Court jury heard yesterday.

Mr Nilsen, aged 37, showed the police where he had hidden bodies under the floorboards of his north London flat before dismembering them and burning the remains or flushing them down the toilet, Mr Allan Green, for the prosecution, said.

Mr Green said that Mr Nilsen admitted not knowing how many bodies there were under the floor because he had not done a "stock-take". He told the police he had killed many victims with his own ties.

adding: "I started with about 15 ties. I have only got one left."

Mr Nilsen, of Cranley Gardens, Muswell Hill, pleaded not guilty to all the charges at the opening of the trial yesterday.

Mr Green said that the defence would argue that Mr Nilsen was guilty of manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility because of mental abnormality. The case, is expected to last into next week.

Mr Green listed 15 alleged cases of murder and three of attempted murder starting December 1978 and continuing until Mr Nilsen's arrest last February after human remains were found blocking the drains of the house in Cranley Gardens.

Full report, page 3

A GENTLEMAN
AFTER SHAVE
BALM
CHANEL

Doucement...

CHANEL

FOR GENTLEMEN

Leader page 13		Law Report 26	
Letters: On firm tenants, from Mr H. R. Fell and others, 14	14	Letters 26	26
kidney patients, from Professor J. Stewart Cameron, 15	15	Parliament 26	26
housing, from Mr J. F. Q. Switzer, 16	16	Arts 26	26
Leading articles: UN and Middle East, Disarmament conference, pages 10, 12, 15	10, 12, 15	Business 26-27	26-27
Beirut after the bombings: Radio 4, format or flexibility: a lethal threat the death row, Spectrum: Philip Oakes's jazz day: Fashion in Paris with Sazy Menkes	10, 12, 15	Court 27	27
Computer hostages, pages 17-19	17-19	TV & Radio 27	27
Obituary, page 14	14	Theatre, etc 27	27
Professor G. V. Raynor, Mr Robert Sweeney	14	Day 27	27
Home News 2-4	2-4	Week 27	27
Overseas 5-6	5-6	Wills 14	14
Arts 14	14		
Books 14	14		
Business 26-27	26-27		
Court 27	27		
Cricket 27	27		
Day 27	27		
Entertainment 27	27		
Finance 27	27		
Health 27	27		
Home 27	27		
International 27	27		
Law 26	26		
Letters 26	26		
Parliament 26	26		
Arts 26	26		
Business 26-27	26-27		
Court 27	27		
TV & Radio 27	27		
Theatre, etc 27	27		
Day 27	27		
Week 27	27		
Wills 14	14		

By Michael Bally, Transport Editor

The Government would dearly like it to be filled by British Airways an early favourite of Mrs Thatcher, provided it

Those involved in the present talks believe they have found a way of privatizing without going to Parliament for money. It is believed to be some variation of a "bridging loan", under which the Government and City institutions would

Concorde is moving into substantial profit this year after years of heavy loss, domestic services are increasingly profitable and BA freight traffic across the Atlantic has leapt 37 per cent in the past year.

By Our Technology Correspondent

Jaguar's robotics programme is separate from Austin-Rover's because it has different requirements as a low-volume manufacturer of luxury vehicles and sports cars.

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Mr McGurk, from Dungan-
ton, county Tyrone, had been
prepared to testify against the
accused when the trial was due
to start thirteen days ago, but it
was adjourned because the

● The Provisional IRA ambushed and shot dead a part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment yesterday as he drove along a country lane to tend his cattle. Mr Cyrus Campbell, aged 48, a farmer, lived at Aghnacloy, co Tyrone.

By Alan Hamilton

CND is working on a "Send
'ruiise home" campaign having
pparently failed despite the
resence of more than 250,000

Saturday's demonstration was bigger than CND had dared to hope, Mrs Ruddock said. She expected an upsurge in applications to join the movement as a result.

The long-running campaign against the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain and Pershing 2 in West Germany was vital, because the weapons represented a stepping up of the arms race. But they were only part of a wider picture, and despite the likely setback of cruise deployment CND would continue to fight on the broader front of nuclear weapons generally, including Britain's continuing use of Polaris and the probable advent of Trident.

Father and sister of the bride: Basil Laitner and his daughter Nicki in a wedding photograph. Hours later she found him dead.

**From Ronald Faux
Sheffield**

The intruder was said to have a Scottish accent. He was described as in his twenties, of a slim build with short fair hair. He wore baggy trousers and a tee-shirt and was unshaven.

By David Cronin

On television Mr Fowler said that the Government wanted management responsibility in the NHS to come from the top. "You see what the trouble is at the moment with the health service is that there is much too much imprecision in the management process," he said.

The institute is against the idea of another round of reorganization in the NEHS only two years after the last shake-up.

Those are expected to include changes designed to devolve more power to districts and individual hospitals. "What we are trying to do is to get control of all the costs inside the health services in a way which has not been done before," Mr. Fowler said on the *Weekend World* programme.

The British Medical Association and the institute will be consulted before changes are introduced, probably next month.

By Peter Evans

Mr Brittan intends to reduce drastically parole opportunities for certain murderers and other violent criminals. He has announced new 20-year mini-

By Our Political Editor

1 Last night Dr Owen replied
2 to the Prime Minister express-

Mr Brittan's letter says that the arrangements governing invitations to the leaders of the main opposition parties had "developed in a piecemeal

By Our Own Correspondent

● *The Future of the Falkland Islands: Observations by the Secretary of State for Defence on the Third Report from the Defence Committee 1982-83.* (Comm. No. K. 9070 Stationery Office £1.75.)

By Our Education Correspondent

good tests when they are selecting candidates for jobs and they can develop better liaison with schools.

Blueprint for Numeracy. An employer's guide to the Cockcroft report (Publications Demand Centre, DES).

Whitehall brief

By Peter Hennessy

"People used to come from all over the world to see the tank," he said in his Birdcage Walk headquarters across the road from the Treasury. "Now has gone. It is bizarre."

William Plowden: "Whitehall at the moment". (Photo by [unreadable])
Mr Plowden remains an

...is not a very happy place at
tograph: John Voos.)

...basically young and optimistic.

"There is a simple task here, to look at the original case for the metropolitan counties and to see whether they did what they were supposed to. A bit of dispassionate analysis is called for and the RIPA can provide that."

The Institute, Mr Plowden added, can do some things the CPRS was "kept out of by the permanent secretaries - how the system works, the machinery of government."

The Lord Chancellor's

The department did a survey of 3,000 cases which showed inconsistencies in the granting of legal aid between different magistrates' courts. Regulations to be made shortly will provide for committees of the Law Society to receive and redetermine rejected applications.

British Telecom withdrew

But British Telecom emphasized that everyone who refused to work normally would be considered to be in breach of contract and liable for dismissal.

Britain's two new nuclear

waste dumps will be an abandoned mine at Billingham on Teesside and a site in the Bedfordshire-Buckinghamshire area. Billingham will store long-lived radioactive waste, the other site short-life products in 10-metre trenches.

هَذَا مِنْ رِوَايَاتِ

Nilsen strangled, cut up and burnt men he met in pubs, jury told

Dennis Nilsen, a civil servant and former probationary policeman, told the police he had killed 15 or 16 people. It was alleged at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Mr Nilsen, aged 37, of Cranley Gardens, Muswell Hill, north London, who denies six murders and two attempted murders, was questioned after a plumber had found human remains in a blocked drain at his home Mr Allan Green, for the prosecution, said.

Mr Nilsen said that the remains of three bodies were found at the house, and Bones from at least eight bodies were discovered at a house in Melrose Avenue, Cricklewood, north-west London, where Mr Nilsen had lived.

Mr Nilsen also admitted attempting to kill another seven men, Mr Green said. But eight had not been identified.

Mr Green said that there was no doubt that Mr Nilsen had killed all the men he was alleged to have murdered, but the defence would raise the question of diminished responsibility.

Mr Nilsen's killings and attempted killings had followed a pattern: each victim was a man whom he had met that day, usually in a public house, who had no fixed address and whose disappearance would not lead to any inquiries. Some were homosexuals and some prostitutes.

"They went back to his flat where they would drink and in almost all the cases he would try to strangle them," Mr Green said.

Mr Nilsen was arrested last February after he and other unidentifiable men had complained to the landlord's agents about the smell from the drains. Mr Green said. Det. Chief Insp Peter Jay confirmed him after the remains had been analysed and said: "I've come about your claims."

Mr Green added that Mr Nilsen had joined the Army in 1961 and had served for 11 years. "Some of the service was in the catering corps, where he learnt certain butchering skills which he put to use in some of the killings."

In 1972, he became a probationary police constable in the Wellesden area for almost eight months. He resigned and became a security officer with the Manpower Services Commission in 1974.

Mr Green said that in November, 1975, Mr Nilsen had moved into 195 Melrose Avenue. Various young men

shared his flat until the summer of 1978 when he began to live there alone.

The first victim was a young unidentified Irishman in December, 1978, Mr Green said.

When Mr Nilsen woke the next morning he found him lying dead on a bed. "I came to the conclusion that I had killed him," he allegedly told the police.

Asked how the man had died, Mr Nilsen was said to have replied: "My tie was round his neck. I think I started off with about 15 ties. I have only got one left, a clip-on."

He hid the body under floorboards, but later burnt it in the garden.

The next to die was Kenneth Ockenden, aged 23, a Canadian. Mr Nilsen strangled him with the cord of a set of headphones in December, 1979, because Mr Ockenden had become engaged in some music, Mr Green said.

He later dissected the body and that of his third victim, Martin Duffey, aged 16, who had been doing a catering course. He was killed in May, 1980. The remains were burnt in the garden with a tyre to disguise the smell, it was said.

'Victim was drowned in the bath'

Mr Nilsen allegedly gave details of several other killings at Melrose Avenue after which he put the bodies under the floorboards before disposing of them.

Asked by the police how many bodies he had had under the floor at any one time, he allegedly replied: "I am not sure. I did not do a stock check or anything."

The fourth victim was William Sutherland, aged 25, from Edinburgh, who was described as a heavy drinker. Mr Green said. Mr Nilsen had said: "We had a great binge and I killed Billy Sutherland." Mr Nilsen allegedly said that his strength increased two or three times after he had been drinking.

The fifth, sixth, seventh, ninth and tenth victims had not been identified, Mr Green said. Mr Nilsen is alleged to have said of one of the strangled men: "I felt I was doing him a favour. I felt his life was one long struggle."

In November, 1980, he invited home Mr Douglas Stewart, then aged 26. He woke up to find his feet tied and Mr

Nilsen tightening his tie around his neck, Mr Green said.

Mr Stewart fought him off and telephoned the police from a public call-box. But when the police arrived at Melrose Avenue Mr Nilsen said that Mr Stewart had assaulted him. Mr Stewart did not proceed with his charges.

Mr Nilsen is alleged to have said of the eleventh and unidentified victim: "I removed my tie and put it round his neck and strangled him. End of day, end of drinking, end of person."

The twelfth victim, Mr Green said, was Malcolm Barlow, aged 23, from Sheffield, a low-intelligence vagrant, who was an epileptic.

One of his intended victims was Mr Paul Nobbs, Mr Green said. They met in November, 1981, when Mr Nobbs was 19. He awoke to find a red mark around his bruised neck, which was later diagnosed as attempted strangulation.

Mr Green added that the police had asked Mr Nilsen if he was a homosexual. He allegedly replied: "In the accepted terms, no, because I have had relationships with male and female."

"My predominant attraction was male. With every single victim in this case I never engaged in sexual intercourse with them before or after death."

The thirteenth victim was John Peter Howlett from High Wycombe. Mr Green said: "His death is possibly the most chilling of all."

Mr Howlett was said to have struggled furiously as Mr Nilsen wound a loose upholstery strap around his neck. He ended up drowning. Mr Howlett in the bath, Mr Green said.

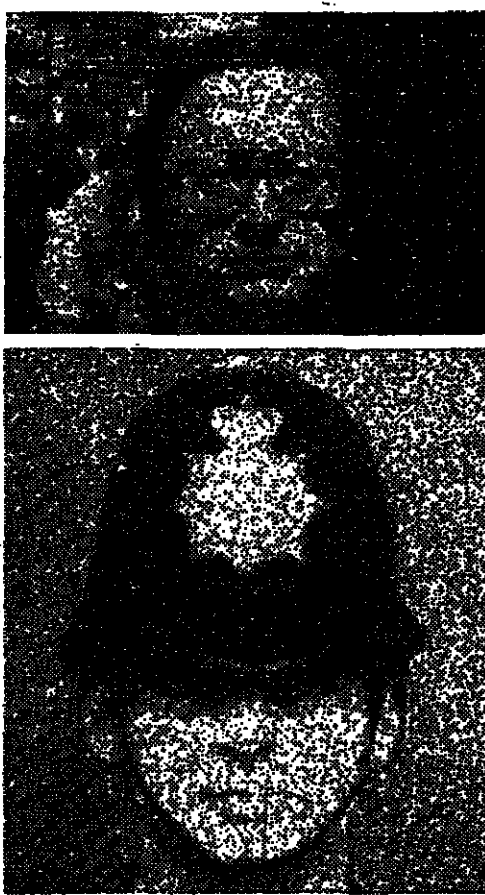
Mr Nilsen allegedly told the police: "I decided to dissect the body in the bath and flush the pieces of flesh and organs down the lavatory. This proved a slow process so I decided to boil some of it, including the head. I put all the large bones out with the rubbish."

The next two victims were Archibald Allen, aged 28, from Glasgow, and Mr Stephen Sinclair, aged 21, another Scotsman, Mr Green said.

Mr Nilsen has denied the following charges:

That on an unknown day he murdered Kenneth James Ockenden; that between May 16 and 19, 1980, he murdered Martin Duffey; that between July 1 and October 31, 1980, he murdered William David Sutherland; that between September 1 and 22, 1980, he murdered Malcolm Barlow; that between January 31 and March 31, 1982, he murdered Stephen Sinclair; that between November 9 and 12, 1980, he attempted to murder Douglas Stewart; that between November 22 and 1981, he attempted to murder Paul Nobbs.

The hearing continues today.



Dennis Nilsen as a probationary policeman (below), and in London last March (right) and Mr Allan Green, counsel for the prosecution (top).



Racehorse stud owner drops herpes action

A damages action brought by Merion Meade, a racehorse breeder, against a leading firm of Newmarket veterinary surgeons over the death of three mares during an outbreak of equine herpes virus ended abruptly in the High Court yesterday.

Mrs Meade and Miss Breefy Meade, her daughter, withdrew all their allegations of professional negligence against Day Crowhurst, Simpson Greenwood and Ellis, the veterinary surgeons.

Mr Edward Cazalet, QC, for the Meades, told Mr Justice Fain: "I am happy to tell you

that the parties have been able to resolve their differences."

The Meades, who run the Ballintober Stud at Carlton, near Newmarket, had claimed more than £100,000 damages for the death of three mares in 1979. The claim included related losses and the expense of caring for sick animals.

They alleged that the veterinary surgeons allowed a Ballintober mare to come into contact with an infected mare and foal at the surgery.

The veterinary surgeons denied negligence and contested the cause of death of two of the mares. They counter claimed for £1,161 in unpaid fees.

Hunt 'mole' accused over moving of foxes

By Hugh Clayton, Environmental Correspondent

The British Field Sports Society admitted yesterday that wild foxcubs dug from an earth near Birmingham had been taken more than 100 miles to the Humberkennels of the Holderness hunt. The incident, disclosed in *The Times* yesterday, was filmed on behalf of the League Against Cruel Sports.

But the society insisted that the animals would not have been transported had it not been suggested by a league "mole" who witnessed the incident in 1980 when he posed as a hunt supporter.

The society said that Mr

Christopher Wood, who then worked for the Holderness hunt, had a friend who worked as a terrierman near Birmingham. It added that the league "mole", who used the name Barry Copplestone, offered a vehicle for the journey.

The league denied suggesting the journey. Mr Richard Course, executive director, said that carrying wild cubs more than 100 miles in a box was against the animal welfare principles which guided his organization. "Anyone who works for me will have a proven record in animal welfare," Mr Course said.

Daily Mail readers second time unlucky

By David Hewson

Readers of the *Daily Mail* besieged the newspapers offices and telephone lines for the second time in two years yesterday in the mistaken belief that they had struck gold in the paper's latest attempt to boost its circulation through a bingo-style competition.

Yesterday's *Daily Mail* carried details of a new competition which, the newspaper announced, "is going to make it so much easier to transform your lifestyle to millionaire level".

But for those who battled their way through the jammed switchboard or waded the newspapers harassed commissionaires there was usually a different story. After failing to persuade *Daily Mail* executives to talk about the competition, I stood in line with a group of readers pressing their claims, only to be told by a commissionaire: "I'm sorry, there's been a mistake. You haven't won anything."

The commissionaire blamed ambiguous wording of the rules and added: "According to the women upstairs we'll be changing them tomorrow."

The instructions for the main part of the contest covered half of the centre spread of yesterday's *Daily Mail*, while the rest invited readers to imagine what they would do with the £1m top prize.

Details of two subsidiary competitions made up the next page. One was a roulette-style game which let to the newspapers first brush with its readers in February last year. About 8,000 claimed a £35,000 first prize only to be told that they would all be entered for a draw for one sum of £35,000.

Mail executives refused to disclose their response to the latest circulation war rumpus, but it may bring back Labour calls for some form of newspaper bingo code to be drawn up with the Office of Fair Trading.

Libel damages for Sean Connery

Sean Connery received a public apology yesterday over passages in a biography of him which he regarded as "inaccurate and defamatory in relation to his personal and professional life".

The High Court was told that he had also accepted "modest" damages in settlement of his libel action and would give the money to the Scottish International Educational Trust.

The actor had sued the author, Kenneth Passingham, the publishers Sidgwick & Jackson, and Express Newspapers, which published extracts from the book in the *Sunday Express* last December.

His counsel, Mr Charles Gray, said he did not authorize the biography of play any part in its compilation.

He was particularly incensed by a paragraph which



Sean Connery: Accepted "modest" damages.

he maintained, implied he had been guilty of some deceit in connexion with the financial provision made for Diane Cilento at the time of their divorce.

Doctor in £200,000 plot jailed

A Harley Street specialist and pioneer of kidney transplant techniques was jailed for three years yesterday for defrauding a Saudi Arabian health authority of an estimated £200,000.

Stanley Hardy, aged 62, an undischarged bankrupt, of Rampton Road, Cottenham, Cambridge, admitted conspiring with employees of the Saudi Health Office to obtain cash, securities and cheques by deception.

Southwark Crown Court was told how he invented bogus patients, allegedly referred to him by the Saudi Embassy, and then sent the bill to the embassy.

Car plea fails

An appeal by Vincent Hilaire, aged 24, the Crystal Palace football club winger, against a six-month driving ban imposed by Bexley magistrates in August was rejected by Judge Troup at Croydon Crown Court yesterday.

Kerb crawlers

Twelve men were bound over to be of good behaviour for a year by Nottingham magistrates yesterday after a vice squad drove against kerb crawlers in the Hyson Green red light district last month.

Royal pony shot

Concorde, a four-year-old filly pony belonging to the Queen, was shot yesterday after it bolted into the path of a car near Windsor Great Park and broke a leg.

Gaming machines curb

From Arthur Osman, Birmingham

Cafes and premises used by children in Birmingham will be limited to two gaming machines in future, the city council's general purposes committee decided yesterday. The committee is worried about the increased number of applications to license large numbers of machines in cafes.

The city has 505 permits in force covering 1,513 machines, including 818 in 26 amusement centres which are not covered by the limit. There are 274 cafes with permits for 420 machines and 117 fish and chip shops with 155 machines.

Some forms of gambling ought to be stopped, according to a report to be published this week by a working party of the National Council for Social Aid, a Church of England body (our Religious Affairs Correspondent writes).

It concludes that there is no general Christian view of gambling that mild gambling can be harmless entertainment, but that objectionable activities include the "indiscriminate spread of gaming machines, and the deliberate appeal to excitement and excess" among young people.

Struck-off lawyer faces £150,000 bill

The solicitor who overcharged a client by £131,000 was struck off by a High Court judge yesterday and faces a bill of costs of £150,000.

"He has only himself to blame," Mr Justice Vinelott said when he ordered that Mr Lawrence Davies be removed from the roll of solicitors.

Mr Davies, aged 60 of Queen Victoria Road, Llanelli, Dyfed, admitted gross and persistent misconduct in submitting a "grossly inflated" £198,000 bill to Mr Leslie Parsons, a Welsh businessman and inventor.

After two High Court hearings the bill was cut to £67,000. But when the Law Society, the solicitors' governing body, took action against Mr Davies, Mr Parsons took steps under the Solicitors' Act, 1974, to have Mr Davies removed from the roll.

Mr Parsons, aged 69, of Green Trees, Llan Hir, Camar-

then, who runs a pickling factory, successfully won a Court action in 1975 over an onion-peeling machine he invented. He was awarded £530,000 damages, but Mr Davies, who acted for him, then submitted a bill for £105,000 which Mr Parsons considered too much. He asked for a detailed account, which came with a new bill for £198,000.

The figure for reading documents was reduced by more than £80,000 when it came to court. It had been grossly excessive, the judge said. The attendance bill contained wholly fictitious times and dates and were added up to inflated totals.

Mr Davies fell far short of his duty as a solicitor and had been unwise to take on a case far beyond his firm's resources. Mr Parsons was entitled to

take the action he did, in bringing him to court, the judge said.

Mr Davies, a former member of the Council of the Law Society and a solicitor for 38 years, is at home, recovering from a heart attack. He worked for a family firm W. Davies and Jenkins, Llanelli, founded by his father.

Mr Parsons was ordered to pay court costs for half a day's argument on whether the Law Society should be liable for any costs of the striking-off action. The judge had earlier ruled that they were not liable.

The Law Society said after the hearing that it unreservedly welcomed an independent investigation by the lay observer and would cooperate fully with him in it. It would make no further statement until the lay observer had completed his investigation.

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MAZE ESCAPE

Ridley: Improvements

Hughes: No glimmer of hope.

British C-in-C to visit Beirut

LEBANON

Clerk dies

Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Lords, reported to the House that the death had occurred of Mr John Webb, who since 1977 had been the fourth clerk at the table and head of the Judicial Office.

Complete list of Government as Parliament resumes

Defence

Mr Nicholas Ridley
Mrs Lynda Chalker
Mr David Mitchell

Lord Havers
Lord of the Treasury

Mayhew
Lord Fraser

Threatney
Prize Minister, First
of the Treasury and
for the Civil Service
Chancellor of the Ex
Chief Secretary
Financial Secretary
Ministers of State
Economic Secretary
Parliamentary Secre
the Treasury and Ch
Whip

Lords Commissioners

Prior
Burke
Lord of the Treasury
as Scott
Stephen Patten

Assistant Whips

**Lord
Minister
Secretary**

Mrs Margaret Thatcher

Mr Nigel Lawson
Mr Peter Rees
Mr John Moore
Mr Barney Hayhoe
Mr Ian Stewart
Mr John Wakeham

Mr Alastair Goodlad
Mr Donald Thompson
Mr David Hunt
Mr Ian Lang
Mr Thomas Garel-Jones
Mr Archibald Hamilton
Mr John Major
Mr Douglas Hoag
Mr Michael Naylor

Report on Channel tunnel soon

The report by a group of British and French bankers on private financing of the various Channel Tunnel schemes should be before the Government very shortly. Mr. Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, has already explained that all possible propositions and designs were still open.

Mr. George Foulkes (Carrick, Dumfries and Galloway, Labour) asked the Minister whether the Government were in their current position over the proposed tunnel.

Will he confirm (the worst) on the Government still favour a twin road, twin rail, twin gas, twin water and not the elaborate twin rail, twin road combined, proposed by the elaborate Mr Ian MacGregor?

Mr. Ridley: All possible propositions and designs are still open. The banks' report will comment on the cost and financing difficulties of the various projects.

We must await their findings. I can say for any judgment about this matter.

Mr. Dan Dover (Clarke, C). Many of the proposals are very broad proposals. There is urgent need for these alternatives to be narrowed down so they can move forward into getting the necessary backing from the public and the business community to get off the ground.

Mr. Ridley: At a certain time there will have to be a rationalization of the possible proposals. The whole thing will depend on the ability of the private sector to finance any of the proposals. We must therefore assess the finance first.

Mr. Donald Anderson (Squassee East, Lab.) Is it from Government policy that under no circumstances will any public money be at risk, either directly by subvention or indirectly by some form of insurance policy?

Mr. Ridley: I think we must await the report. The Government has a number of policies, and we must see what Anderson's point and there has been no departure from that.

London lorry routes

Consideration would be given to the needs of commerce and industry in considering the future of ferry routes in London. Mrs. Evelyn Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said in answer to a question on plans for taking over the establishment and supervision of ferry routes, *whereas the Greater London Council's responsibilities were well defined, it was not clear* Mrs. Chalker said in answering the question of the views of the Government and others about the Government's proposals for realigning highways and traffic responsibilities in London. The arrangements adopted for handling London's ferry traffic generally would need to cater for the needs of the unorganized masses of freight movement inland around London.

Dr Ian Twiss (Edinburgh): The proposed amendments to the Bill of London to convert the doctrine into proposals we have seen from the GLC.

Mrs Chalker: Industry and commerce must have consideration in any scheme which considers heavy transport. A blanket ban such as proposed by the GLC would not be conducive to employment in London and the GLC should take careful note of what they would do to London employment and industry if they were to proceed down the line of a total ban.

We need careful planning and full consideration with the boroughs in the heavy controls.

[illegible]

Knesset looks to local polls for clues to its own future

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Less than three weeks after taking office, the new Likud Government, led by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, will face an indirect test of its electoral appeal today when 2.6 million Israelis are eligible to take part in municipal elections contested by the same parties which dominate the Knesset.

Although some of the candidates such as Mr Teddy Kollek, the ebullient Labour Mayor of Jerusalem, have an appeal which crosses party lines, the results are being eagerly awaited as a guide towards voting intentions in a general election which many expect to be brought forward from its scheduled date of 1985.

Voters will be casting their ballots both for specific mayoral candidates and for party lists. In the run up to voting, Labour has been improving its position in the opinion polls.

Because of the grave economic crisis, the party has been concentrating on the national aspect of the election to the country's 147 local authorities. Reserve General Mordechai Gur, the former Chief of Staff in charge of the Labour campaign, claimed that national issues were inseparable from the municipal poll.

After the recent exit from politics of Mr Menachem Begin and the chain of economic catastrophes, Likud managers are braced for a protest vote against the Government.

The last hours of canvassing yesterday were overshadowed by reports of a sharp drop in value of shares following the reopening of the crisis hit Tel Aviv stock exchange for the first time in more than a fortnight. Because of heavy selling, smoo-

40 per cent in dollar terms was wiped off the value of shares in the main commercial banks since the exchange shut on October 6. Other shares fell an average of 20 per cent in dollar terms.

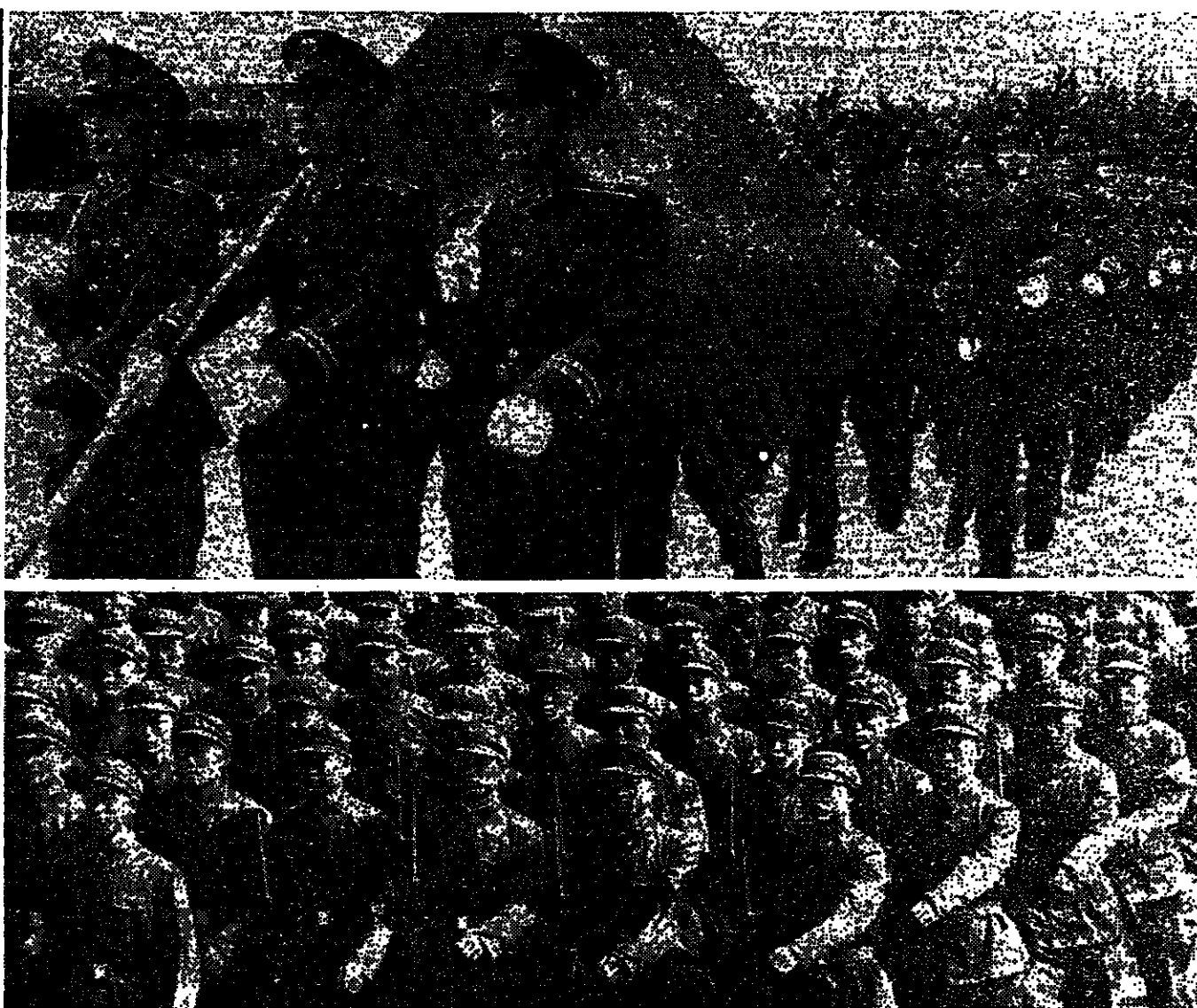
Although government officials and stockbrokers expressed relief that the initial wave of selling had been less serious than feared, there were indications that the slump in the value of bank shares - the country's most popular hedge against 131 per cent inflation - could have damaging electoral results for the Likud.

In Jerusalem, the municipal election campaign has seen occasional outbreaks of violence resulting from another issue gathering momentum in national political terms - the mounting hostility between ultra-orthodox Jews and the majority of Israelis, who are less exacting in their adherence to strict religious laws.

Last week, Mr Kollek, was attacked by a mob of 200 Jewish fanatics because of his refusal to withdraw financial support for a large new mixed-sex swimming pool.

One of his campaign posters warns that a failure to vote for him could be his hands for forcing him into a coalition at City Hall with his ultra-orthodox rivals from the Agudat Israel party.

Although many of the 100,000 Palestinian Arab residents of East Jerusalem are entitled to vote, the great majority are expected to boycott the poll for national reasons as they have done in previous elections since the Arab sector of the city was conquered by Israel in 1967.



The changing face of China: Chinese infantrymen show off their new dress uniform (top), a complete contrast with the plain khaki of Mao's day (below). The short collar is almost the only stylistic feature to remain.

Mao Tse-tung's little red book falls from favour

Peking (Reuters) - China's Communist Party daily paper made no mention of the works of late Chairman Mao Tse-tung in a list of essential reading for all party members published yesterday.

"Organize party members to start studying these documents, and get on with it", the Central Working Com-

mittee for Party Rectification said in a decree published in the newspaper.

The party recently said it would purge ultra-leftwing and corrupt officials among its 40 million members. The move was seen by diplomats as the next step in consolidating the position of the present leadership around Mr Deng Xiaoping.

The disappearance of Mao's writings is a striking change from the heady days of the Cultural Revolution.

Eight documents listed as required reading include reports of Central Party meetings since Mr Deng took control, speeches by Mr Deng and party leader Mr Hu Yaobang, and the party and national constitutions.

Rebel raids fuel petrol crisis in Nicaragua

Managua (AP) - The Government is to curb petrol use, limit weekend activities and turn off the lights at midnight because of fuel shortages.

The Sandinista authorities also announced stiff penalties for wasting space, creating a 25-mile security zone off both Nicaragua's coasts. They also announced that they would evacuate 25,000 people from the city of Corinto if rebel attacks there continued.

The state radio said the rationing measures were taken "in view of the national emergency created by the imperialist aggression".

The Sandinistas have suffered a series of crippling attacks by US-backed rebels in the past two months which have hit fuel supplies.

The measures reduce petrol quotas to private car owners from 20 to 18 gallons a month and to taxi drivers from five gallons to one a day. Government agencies will receive 15 per cent less for official use.

The three newspapers in Managua - the official *Barricada*, the pro-Sandinista *Nuevo Diario* and the opposition *La Prensa* - will receive less newsprint and will not publish on Sunday. Street lights will be switched off at midnight. The traditional six-day week will be reduced to five, with shifts increased from eight to 10 hours.

Commander Daniel Ortega, the junta coordinator, said an invasion by the Honduran or US Army was imminent and urged the country's 2.5 million residents to prepare to face it. Recent rebel attacks had closed Nicaragua's only oil unloading docks.

Commander Ortega said Corinto would be evacuated "if the imperialist aggression that places in danger the lives of the people persists".

Queensland Premier rules out coalition

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

Mr Joh Bjelke-Petersen, the victorious Queensland Premier, yesterday firmly ruled out any coalition with the rump of the Liberal Party.

The Liberals look like retaining only seven of the 20 seats they had before Saturday's election. The final results will not be known until the end of the week after preferences have been allocated.

After a Cabinet meeting in Brisbane yesterday, the Premier said that he believed his National Party Government would have 42 seats, an overall majority of one.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen has started talks on the composition of his 18-member ministry and plans to reopen the state Parliament towards the end of next month. So far this year it had sat for just over 14 days.

The Premier does not rule out the possibility that some Liberals might support him.

Mr Terry White, the Liberal Party leader, said yesterday that he would stand for the party leadership which is automatically declared vacant after an election.

The poor showing of the Liberals in Queensland is a blow for Mr Andrew Peacock, the federal Liberal leader, with a federal by-election on Saturday week for the seat of Moreton, formerly held by Sir James Killen, (Liberal) who has retired.

The Labour Party requires a swing of only about 1.8 per cent to win Moreton. However, the Liberals have a good candidate in Mr Don Cameron, who lost his seat in the March general election and who had held marginal seats for the party for 16 years.

The Liberals are hoping that because no National Party candidate is standing at Moreton the coalition opposition will present a united front.

Iran assault closes on Iraq town

Tehran (Reuters) - Iran said yesterday that its forces had launched the second phase of an offensive into Kurdish mountains on northern Iraq and were closing in on the Iraqi border town of Peshawa.

The national news agency IRNA said that Iranian troops, who began the new assault late on Sunday night, had captured Iraqi positions on the Kalu Heights north of Penjwin and two other areas of high ground. It said hundreds of Iraqis had been killed or wounded in the fighting.

● BAGHDAD: Iraq confirmed that Iranian troops had launched a fresh attack on the northern Gulf war front, five days after they mounted a cross-border offensive over the Kurdish mountains (Reuters reports).

Iraqi war communiques issued over the past few days said 5,000 Iranian troops had been killed in the offensive, while dozens of Iranian tanks as well as other equipment had been destroyed.

Spanish leaders join forces against ETA

From Harry Debelins, Madrid

Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister, and the opposition leader, Señor Manuel Fraga, agreed on bipartisan anti-terrorist measures, here yesterday after one of the most recent Basque extremist attacks left a five-month-old child seriously wounded.

Their conversation took place at the prime minister's residence, Moncloa Palace, in the midst of growing political violence by the leftwing secessionist organization ETA (Basque Homeland and Liberty). The Prime Minister had received a message from

President Reagan shortly before, expressing his solidarity in the worldwide fight against terrorism.

Señor Fraga, whose conservative Popular Alliance has repeatedly called for emergency measures to stamp out the ETA, said after the meeting that he intended to cooperate with the Government in new anti-terrorist measures. He did not specify what had been agreed.

The injured baby is the daughter of a member of the paramilitary civil guard police. She was hit by flying debris on Sunday night when ETA blasted a civil guard barracks at Lecumberri, near Pamplona, with three bazooka rounds and several bursts of machine-gun fire.

About one-and-a-half hours earlier, a bomb exploded at the San Sebastian naval headquarters, but there were no victims. The building had been evacuated after an anonymous telephone warning.



Señor González (left) and Señor Fraga: Allies against ETA.

Sahel herds eating like locusts, dying like flies

From Susan MacDonald, Dakar

The West African countries of the Sahel could be facing the worst drought since 1972 within the next few months, according to aid specialists working in the area. The latest news and the sparseness of the summer rains, which usually last from July until October, have badly hit pasture lands and crops.

This situation is likely to become dramatic as cattle, sheep and goats move southwards in search of food. UN Food and Agriculture Organization experts working in Senegal estimate that the percentage of grassland available this year is less than a quarter of that of last year.

In 1972 grazing herds reached as far south as the Casamance region, below Gambia, "eating like locusts and dying like flies", as one aid worker said. This

situation could well be repeated this year. Around Dakar the intermittent rains did not start until August and already the earth is becoming brown and parched.

The Senegalese Minister for Rural Development, Mr Amadou Bator Diop, estimates that there will be a 300,000 tonne deficit in crops.

● ABIDJAN: Unicef, the United Nations' Children's Fund is to increase its staff in Africa by a third from 1984 in an effort to combat rising child deaths (AFP reports).

Mr Richard Jolly, Unicef's deputy director-general, said that the increase would not entail extra spending because staff already employed at UNICEF headquarters in Geneva, Copenhagen and New York would be sent to Africa.

French couple seized by Burmese rebels

From Neil Kelly Bangkok

Karen rebels opposed to the Burmese Government have claimed responsibility for kidnapping a French married couple 100 miles east of Rangoon.

A spokesman for the Karen National Union said the couple were being held close to a combat zone near the Thai border. French diplomats have confirmed the kidnapping.

The couple were seized at Myingay Galay where French technicians are working on a new cement plant largely financed by France. It is the third kidnapping in recent years of foreigners by anti-government rebels in Burma.

Ten years ago Shan rebels secured the release from prison of the notorious warlord Khun Sa in exchange for two Russian doctors they had kidnapped.

Concorde's booming business

From Arthur Reed, Delhi

British Airways has applied to the US aviation authorities for permission to extend its London-Washington Concorde service to Miami, Mr Colin Marshall, the airline's chief executive, said yesterday.

The aircraft will be able to fly at twice the speed of sound between the two American cities, producing the sonic boom, as most of the route will be over the Atlantic.

British Airways has taken its decision following record Concorde business, with most of the twice-daily flights between New York and London nearly full, and an operating profit on super-sonic services in the most recent financial year of around \$7m.

Mr Marshall, who is here to attend the annual meeting of the International Air Transport Association, said BA now proposed to keep its fleet of six

Concordes in service for a further 10 years at least.

Airline industry leaders here for the late meeting heard that their companies were losing as much as \$325m a year through ticketing frauds, according to a recent investigation by IATA security. To try to stop the practice the industry is to put the serial numbers of stolen tickets on to a computer programme so that airline staffs can carry out checks before passengers board flights.

Most of the frauds involve tickets stolen from airline or travel agents offices and then filled in at face value of anything up to \$4,000 each. In a recent outbreak of burglaries at travel agencies in London more than 11,000 blank tickets were taken.

IATA security officers believe that organized crime is behind the thefts, and that much of the money "laundered" from the airlines is being used to support

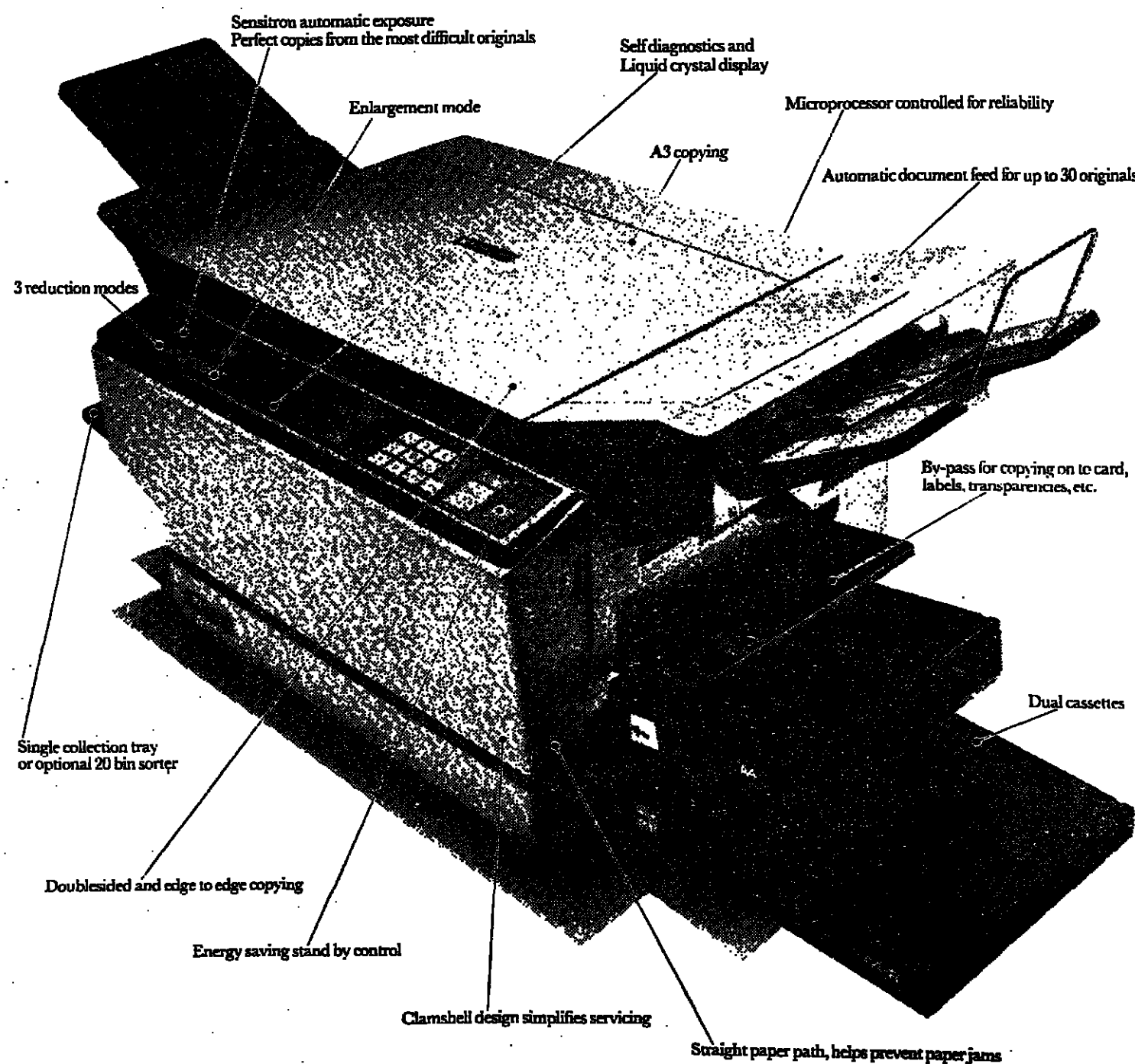
gun-running and drug-trafficking.

Sir Adam Thomson chairman of British Caledonian said that the practice had reached such proportions that "it is not possible to turn a blind eye to it any more. Western governments should put pressure on offending countries and, as a final resort cut off their services."

Opening the meeting Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister said, in a veiled reference to the shooting down by the Soviet Union of the Korean airliner "the skies must be secure from brigandism. Innocent passengers should not be made victims of any type of political campaign."

Airlines at the meeting postponed until today a debate on the Korean affair after several Arab airlines insisted on incidents affecting their airliners should be included in a resolution deploring the Soviet action.

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The Beirut bombings: Reagan under pressure; Mitterrand's flying visit; Pope outraged

Three crucial decisions Washington must take over the next few days

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

Administration officials must take a number of crucial decisions over the next few days in response to the terrorist bombing of the US Marine headquarters in Beirut.

First, they must decide how the 1,600 Marines can be made less vulnerable in future to ensure that there will not be a repetition of Sunday's tragedy.

Second, they must decide what form of retaliation the US should take once the identity of the attackers is known.

Third, and most difficult of all, they must work out what US policy towards Lebanon and the Middle East as a whole should be.

Congress, the press and the American public are already clamouring for the Administration to redefine and clarify the role of US troops in Lebanon and their long-range mission in the Middle East.

General Paul Kelly, Commandant of the Marine Corps, left Washington for Beirut yesterday to study the Marines' deployment. One option being considered is to base them on American warships off the Lebanese coast when they are

not on patrol in and around Beirut airport.

Another is to expand the area under US control so the Marines can occupy defensive positions on the high ground around Beirut airport. At present they are "sitting ducks" to sniper attacks, particularly in their passive role in which they are only supposed to fire in self-defence.

Retaliation presents the Administration with a more difficult problem. It is still unclear who was responsible for the attack. US officials believe it was carried out by a radical Shia Muslim group known as Hizballah, which is backed and inspired by Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian leader, and which operates from a part of Lebanon controlled by Syrian forces.

But even if this is confirmed, it is difficult to see what response the US could take against a small and elusive group of political fanatics. Economic, political or even military retaliation against Iran or Syria is a possibility if either country is shown to have knowingly assisted the terrorists in any way.

But a bombing attack on Damascus, for instance, or some other military response against Syria would run a high risk of confrontation with the Soviet Union which has about 7,000 advisers in Syria.

Such a venture would almost certainly face strong opposition from Congress, already deeply concerned about US involvement in Lebanon and would view any American military action beyond Beirut as a Vietnam-style escalation of the conflict.

The American presence could well become a political time-bomb which could seriously damage President Reagan's reelection prospects next year.

Crudely stated, the Administration has three basic options in Lebanon. It could cut its losses and bring the troops back home, increase the size and scope of its forces and expand the area under their control, or, most likely, it can continue its present policy while increasing political efforts to bolster the Lebanese Government and hasten the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the country.



The briefing: President Reagan deciding on Middle East tactics with Mr George Shultz, Secretary of State, left, and Mr Robert McFarlane, National Security Adviser-designate, on a flight to Washington.

Iran says attack was well-deserved

Tehran (AP) - Iran's Foreign Ministry yesterday denied any Iranian involvement in Sunday's bomb attacks on American and French military buildings in Beirut.

However, several Iranian newspapers yesterday described the attacks, in which more than 200 people died, as a "well-deserved lesson" and a

"suitable response" to the United States and France.

The ministry's denial, published in the local press, said that the "American authorities, unable to understand the meaning of the resistance by the Lebanese, were trying to justify their weakness and their successive defeats" by

"manipulating world opinion".

In an editorial, *The Daily Kayhan* said: "This time the movement for Lebanon's Muslim and revolutionary people attacked the imperialist forces" and what had happened on Sunday was a suitable response to all the attacks and all the massacres of the Zionist regime. The attack on Sunday

was a reprisal for the massacres (of Palestinians last year) at Sabra and Chatila refugee camps.

The Daily Islamic Republic said: "It was right of Lebanon to inflict decisive blows by all possible means on intervention forces and aggressors to end interference in their destiny."

French parties close ranks despite doubts

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The French, outraged by the attack on their national dignity as much as by the slaughter of their sons, closed ranks yesterday behind President Mitterrand and his decision to retain French troops in Beirut, despite underlying misgivings about the role and purpose of the multinational force.

The only discordant voice was that of the Communists who repeated their apprehensions about France getting drawn into what they termed the civil war in Lebanon.

Last month M Georges Marchais, the Communist Party's general-secretary, called for the withdrawal of French troops from Beirut when two French soldiers were killed in a bombardment of French military headquarters in the city, bringing to total number of dead to 17 since the arrival of the French contingent 13 months ago.

The rightwing press and opposition parties along with the Socialist Party and leftwing press were unanimous in their approval of Mitterrand's symbolic lightning visit to Beirut and in their insistence that France must continue with its mission of peace in Beirut, despite the latest carnage.

That does not necessarily reflect the position of the general public, however. People are increasingly wondering what good the multinational force is doing in Beirut, other than apparently waiting like sitting ducks to be killed and asking if it was helping Lebanon along on the road to peace. They are

asking when it will all end, and after how much loss of life among the "soldiers of peace".

The Government which is already unpopular because of its tough economic policies is fully aware that even before this latest tragedy a majority of French people was against the presence of French troops in Beirut. That is no doubt why M Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, left the Government's options open when he said on Sunday night that the question of the withdrawal of the French contingent did not arise "at present".

The opposition was quick to jump on that. M Mauroy's declaration had been "tainted with indecision", M Jean Lecanuet, president of the UDF, one of the two main opposition parties, said. "He told us what France is going to do tomorrow", he added.

M Mitterrand was due to arrive back in Paris last night, less than 24 hours after his secret flight to Beirut in the early hours of yesterday morning. The purpose of this spectacular gesture was both to demonstrate France's continuing support of Lebanon, and to pay tribute in person to the French soldiers who had died, as well as to boost the morale of the shocked survivors.

The first of the injured French soldiers were flown into the military airport at Villacoublay on the western outskirts of Paris from Beirut last night, where they were met by the Prime Minister.



The debris: A US Marine carrying boots and a flak jacket from the rubble of the command building in Beirut as the search for victims of Sunday's bombing continued.

Hundreds of arrests in US nuclear protests

NEW YORK (AP) - Police arrested hundreds of anti-nuclear protesters who climbed a fence at Seneca army depot in New York State, tried to blockade the Savannah River nuclear fuel plant in South Carolina and demonstrated at the Honeywell electronics company's headquarters at Minneapolis.

More than 160 were arrested on trespassing charges at Minneapolis. They were taken to Minneapolis Auditorium and given coffee and doughnuts by Police Chief Anthony Bouza, whose wife, Erica, was among those arrested.

Dr Benjamin Spock, the 80-year-old paediatrician, was among more than 100 people held at Seneca.

France allows Irish to stay

Paris - Three Irish citizens, Michael Flanagan, Mary Reid and Stephen King, who were due to leave Paris after their request for political asylum had been turned down, have been granted a renewable extension to their temporary visas (Diana Geddes writes).

Charges of illegal possession of arms and use of false identity papers were dropped earlier this month after "serious irregularities" had been discovered in the circumstances surrounding their arrest in Paris in August, 1982.

Hamils unseated

Colombo (Reuters) - Fourteen members of the Tamil United Liberation Front, Sri Lanka's main minority party, lost their seats after boycotting elections for three months because they refused to drop demands for a separate Tamil state.

Airport offer

Hongkong (AP) - China has said it will allow a Taiwan commercial aircraft to make emergency landings at its new international airport at Xiamen, opposite the nationalist-held island of Quemoy.

Appeals fail

Nairobi (AFP) - The High Court dismissed appeals against death sentences passed by courts martial on Sergeant Joseph Obuton and Corporal Charles Miraki Odawa, for their parts in the failed Air Force coup in August, 1972.

Bank charges

Seoul (Reuters) - Lee Hunsung, head of the Chohong Bank, and 24 other people were charged in connection with the illegal withdrawal of more than £130m worth of bank funds in promissory notes.

Nkomo returns

Mr Joshua Nkomo, the Zimbabwe opposition leader, who spent five months in Britain in self-imposed exile earlier this year, has returned to London to finish his autobiography.

Shao-Shao dies



Shao-Shao, the nine-year-old female panda who last year gave birth to the first twin cubs conceived by artificial insemination outside China, has died of acute gastroenteritis at Madrid zoo.

Moscow scents a new Vietnam as world leaders voice their dismay

New York (AP) - Many world leaders denounced the Beirut bombings. The Pope called the attacks an act of war and Israel's new Prime Minister said they were "a despicable crime".

In Moscow, the Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* said "it

appears the Vietnam story is beginning to repeat itself."

The Pope, his voice filled with emotion as he stood before a crowd of 80,000 at St. Peter's Square, said: "great sense of sorrow... surges from the soul."

"It is a new act of war at the moment in which, profiting

from a fragile ceasefire, attempts were being made to reestablish dialogue."

Pravda repeated its claim that the Marine contingent had violated its peacekeeping mandate by fighting with some Lebanese factions. Marine spokesmen have said all action was defensive. "It appears that

the Vietnam story begins to repeat itself," *Pravda* commented. The USA is getting drawn deeper and deeper into the fighting in the Lebanese mountains while generals get more and more freedom of action.

Pravda also reiterated the Soviet position that "peace

and accord in long-suffering Lebanon... are impossible in the conditions of foreign interference, foreign occupation and force."

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the new Israeli Prime Minister called the attacks a "despicable crime, undoubtedly perpetrated by those who want to prevent a

peaceful solution in Lebanon and to increase bloodshed."

The Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister, Prince Saud al-Faisal, who has tried to mediate in the Lebanese conflict, said: "We hope that bloodshed will not obliterate the optimistic picture that emanated from the recent ceasefire."

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British Caledonian

Walesa puts off Nobel decision

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Mr Lech Walesa, leader of the banned Solidarity organization, held talks with the Polish Catholic Church hierarchy about whether to travel to Oslo to receive the Nobel Peace Prize early in December. He has expressed fears that he may be stripped of his citizenship while abroad, and barred from re-entering Poland. Mr Walesa has to present a decision to the Nobel prize committee very soon.

In an interview with the underground weekly *Tygodnik Mazowiec*, he quoted as saying that he will not travel to Oslo.

"Whether I go is one thing. Whether I am allowed to come back is another," he is quoted as saying.

The former Solidarity leader has been the subject of a considerable propaganda campaign in the press and television, which has branded him as a money-grabbing cynic.

Mr Walesa is therefore anxious that a church representative should be seen to be present in Oslo. He has donated the cash prize to a special fund being established by the church to help Poland's private farmers but the church is not enthusiastic about being drawn into political gestures.

Lowest turnout since 1919 in Swiss poll

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The Swiss general election has produced the lowest turnout - 45 per cent - since proportional representation was introduced in 1919. There was a slight drift to the right, but the extra seats won by the conservative Radicals - mainly at the expense of the Socialists - do not disturb the balance in the two-chamber parliament of the four-party coalition.

The Ecologist Party won two National Council seats. In

Geneva, the rightwing Vigilante and National Action Parties more than doubled their vote but failed to win a seat. Both had campaigned against "excess of foreigners".

The most prominent Socialist to lose his seat on Sunday was Professor Jean Ziegler, known for his criticism of Swiss banking secrecy. His opponents distributed leaflets calling on the electorate not to vote for "a man who denigrates his country from abroad".

China promises Hongkong will keep trade role

Muscat (Reuters) - Mr Wu Xueqian, the Chinese Foreign Minister, said here that Peking would "follow a special administrative policy in Hongkong after regaining sovereignty in 1997".

Hongkong would remain as it was now - a centre for international trade, he told a press conference on Sunday.

Replying to questions, he also said: "British property will not be affected."

The minister, who arrived in Muscat on Thursday for talks with Omani officials, said China could never accept any argument about its claim to sovereignty over Hongkong.

Thousands join protest in unlit Montevideo

From Our Correspondent, Buenos Aires

On Uruguay's third national day of protest against the military Government, 80 per cent of Montevideo was without lights and thousands of people banged pots and pans to symbolize their rejection of the military regime.

Thousands of people gathered at 12 points in the city on Sunday to hold illegal night-time protest rallies, with the largest of them taking place in the middle class suburb of Pocitos and in the working suburbs in the south of Montevideo.

Danes agree on tough budget cuts

From Christopher Fellet, Copenhagen

A week of tortuous negotiations, led by Mr Poul Schlüter, the Conservative Prime Minister, produced an agreement with opposition parties yesterday on an austerity package of 7,850m kr (€550m) in budget cuts, thus avoiding premature election.

The cuts, which will reduce the budget deficit from this year's forecast 63,000m kr to 59,000m kr next year, mostly affect public expenditure.

The package also includes tax cuts for families with children under the age of 10 and measures to help the agricultural and building sectors.

The agreement, which was reached between the 13-month-old Conservative-Liberal minority coalition and two opposition parties, the anti-tax Progress Party and the small centrist Radical Liberal Party, is 2,600m kr short of the 10,000m kr set by the Government as its savings target. Danes can therefore expect a further dose before the end of the year.

Excluded from the savings is a controversial 1,100m kr compulsory annual health tax on the wealthiest 20 per cent of the population.

Sudan justice

Khartoum (AFP) - A criminal was sentenced by a Khartoum court to have his right hand and left leg cut off after he confessed to breaking into a shop and stealing electrical appliances and cameras.

Stone breaker

Los Angeles (AP) - A West German device known as a lithotripter, which destroys kidney stones with ultrasound waves, without drugs or surgery, has been approved for clinical tests in the United States.

Blacks banned

Pretoria (Reuters) - Pretoria City Council is to spend £78,000 on fencing to keep blacks out of 17 parks, and a further £42,000 on dividing three other parks into white and non-white sections.

Gift to St Lucia

Brussels (AP) - The EEC donated £125,000 to the Caribbean island of St Lucia for distribution to 3,500 victims.

Correction

The director of the national museums of Kenya is Mr Richard Leakey, not Philip Leakey as stated in a report from Nairobi on October 20.

"All I want is the chance of a lifetime"



Sharon has leukaemia. Children of her mother's generation with this disease had no chance whatsoever. They died. The campaign against this killer has taken gigantic steps in the past 15 years. Sharon has a 50 per cent chance of effective treatment, should she be among those lucky enough to receive it in time. Even more heartening, with your help the Elimination of Leukaemia Fund (ELF) could conceivably eradicate this cruel malignancy within our lifetime. It would never threaten her children - or your children's children.

ELF, a major new medical charity, aims to raise the necessary funds to set up and run a prototype specialist leukaemia unit in London, where it already has three people specially trained to treat leukaemia sufferers. The unit would provide both in-patient and out-patient care. When sufficient money is raised similar units will be established in at least 12 major provincial towns.

The funds needed for the prototype unit cannot be provided by the National Health Service, so ELF is asking for your support. We need to raise £30,000,000 over a five year period. By directly meeting expenses for medical staff and facilities, ELF would be supporting the ailing NHS in a way that is probably unique for a charity.

You can help by completing the Deed of Covenant below for any amount you wish to pledge. Your gift will considerably exceed its face value because ELF can recover the income tax which has been paid on it. If you wish to covenant your contribution for a period longer than four years, simply indicate the period you propose on the form. Any donation will be most welcome, whatever the amount.

Please help Sharon and others like her. With all the goodwill in the world, we won't find a cure for leukaemia, but with enough money we might.



THIS ADVERTISEMENT WAS GENEROUSLY GIVEN TO ELF BY PADMA BHUSHAN SWRAJ PAUL, CHAIRMAN OF THE CAPARO GROUP LIMITED, IN MEMORY OF HIS DAUGHTER, AMBIKA, WHO DIED OF LEUKAEMIA

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All enquiries and donations should be addressed to Humphry Berkeley, The Director, Elimination of Leukaemia Fund 31/32 Hans Place, London SW1X 0JY

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(for use by firms and individuals)

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(For names and surnames)

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(Full address)

hereby covenant with the Elimination of Leukaemia Fund that for a period of four years or during my lifetime (whichever period shall be the shorter) I will pay to the said Fund yearly on the day of such a sum as after deduction of Income Tax at the standard rate for the time being in force will leave in the hands of the said Fund a net sum of £..... such sum to be paid from my general fund of taxed income so that I shall receive no personal or private benefit in any year from the said yearly payments or any part thereof, and so that the same shall be applied for the said Fund. The first payment to be made on the day of 19.....

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SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED by the above named.

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In the presence of

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(Witness's occupation)

*This should be the net sum per annum which the donor intends to give

Arrest shown on television

DeLorean's acquittal demanded

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Mr John DeLorean's lawyers are demanding that all charges against him should be dismissed after the television screening of the extraordinary FBI videotapes of his arrest.

The black and white tapes show Mr DeLorean relaxing in his hotel room in a Los Angeles hotel room a year ago. Government agents, posing as drug dealers, arrive with a suitcase of cocaine, and Mr DeLorean chuckles delightedly and says: "It's as good as gold."

There is the popping of a champagne cork and Mr DeLorean raises a glass and offers the toast to "a lot of success for everyone."

At this moment there is a knock on the door and a man enters, saying "Hi, John I'm Jerry West with the FBI. You are under arrest for narcotics smuggling."

Mr DeLorean appears surprisingly calm at this turn of events, obediently offers his wrists for handcuffs and listens as his rights are read to him.

He is now on bail of more than £3m on charges that he arranged a £16m cocaine deal to save his sinking sports car company in Northern Ireland. His trial is due to begin next Tuesday in Los Angeles.

Mr Howard Weizman, his attorney, protested yesterday that the screening of the videotapes on the CBS network

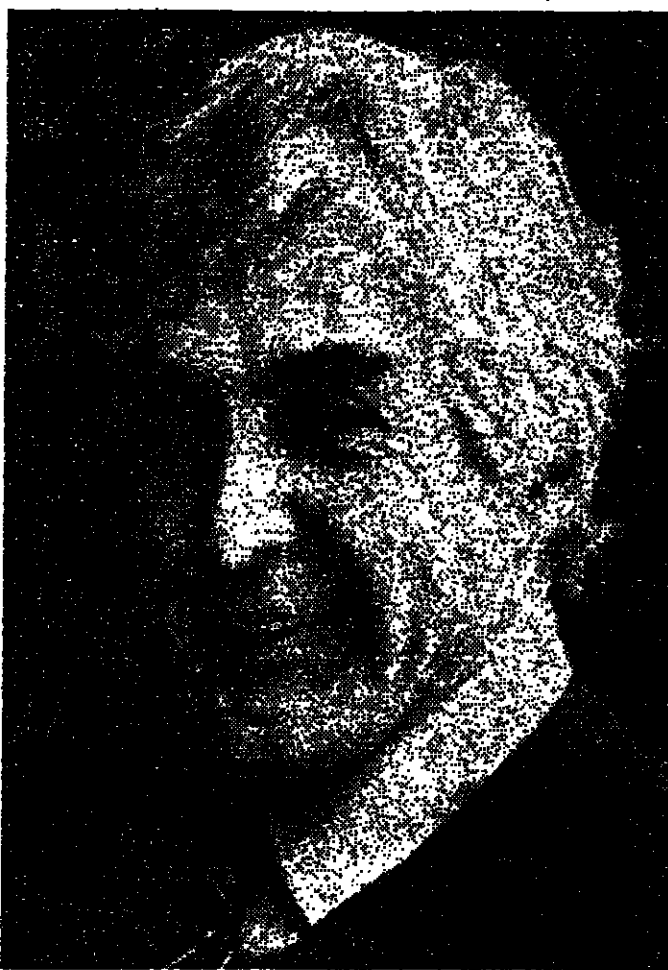
had robbed Mr DeLorean of his chance of a fair trial. "This is a nightmare," he said. "He is going to be tried and perhaps, God forbid, convicted through the media. This is going to be a circus."

Judge Robert Takasugi, who will be the judge at Mr DeLorean's trial, ruled that CBS could not broadcast the videotapes. But CBS went to an appeal court on Sunday and judges overturned the ruling. The lawyer representing CBS said that Judge Takasugi had no power to stop the screening. He added that the case was "the familiar collision" between freedom of the press and a man's right to a fair trial, with legal precedent being in favour of the press.

Later two Supreme Court justices backed the appeal court decision and the broadcast went ahead.

CBS had obtained copies of the tapes from Mr Larry Flynt, publisher of a pornographic magazine, who said he had bought them from a government employee.

Another videotape, made in Washington a month before Mr DeLorean's arrest, and screened by CBS, shows the car maker saying that financing for the drug deal was being provided by the IRA, and that the IRA was protecting his factory near Belfast.



Mr DeLorean: Took his arrest calmly.

Helsinki back in the arms spotlight

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Senior officials from 35 countries meet in Helsinki today to start talks to work out a new code of conduct for armies in Europe.

Today's gathering is the preparatory meeting for the Conference on Disarmament in Europe, one of the fruits of the European security review conference which recently ended in Madrid after three years of wrangling.

Western powers including the United States and Canada want to use the conference, due to open in Stockholm on January 17, to help to lower East-West tensions by reducing the risk of a surprise attack on the continent.

Under the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Helsinki in 1975, they all agreed to a set of so-called confidence building measures, under which they would notify each other in advance of military manoeuvres involving more than 25,000 men.

Now the West wants to include all troop movements involving more than a division - approximately 10,000 men. It also wants notification of all such movements, even when units are travelling from one place to another, to be obligatory.

The Helsinki Final Act moreover limited these arrangements to an area extending only 150 miles inside the Soviet Union. Now the Russians themselves seem prepared to extend the zone eastwards as far as the Urals.

The Russians originally wanted a compensating concession from NATO which would cover virtually the whole of the North Atlantic and its continual movement of NATO warships. But a compromise was reached finally which would cover only air and sea movements connected with European land exercises.

Western diplomats hope that all these arguments will be left until the Stockholm meeting. They want the preparatory meeting, which is scheduled to last for no longer than three weeks, to be a low-key affair concerned only with timetables and agenda.

● MOSCOW: encouraged by anti-nuclear demonstrations in the West at the weekend, the Russians are prepared to bide their time before making their next move at the Geneva arms talks, diplomats believe.

Reports in *Pravda* and other Soviet papers yesterday gave an impression of overwhelming opposition to the deployment of new NATO weapons in Western Europe and North America. All Soviet reports put the numbers of protesters higher than Western estimates.

Pravda carried a photograph of a peace march in Italy, and the headline "We will not allow the fire to be lit", said the demonstrations in West Germany, Britain, Italy and Canada had been "unprecedented".

Pravda said yesterday that Moscow would put forward its standing offer of a non-aggression pact between NATO and the Warsaw pact at today's conference in Helsinki.

Some arrests and summary executions have been rumoured, but there is no indication of any internal group strong enough to challenge the hegemony of the shah and his family.

Qatar announced the border restrictions in early September. Only businessmen staying for up to 72 hours would be allowed to enter the country between September 15 and October 15. Not even they could do so between October 15 and November 20.

The assumption in Whitehall is that the recent security scares have made the Government particularly nervous.

Rumours that middle-class Qataris might have been planning a coup are discounted by expatriate residents, although it is true that "bonus" payments and fringe benefits have been stopped since the price of oil was cut earlier this year.



Shaikh Khalifa: No strong challengers.

In July a Libyan national was arrested in Rome accused of carrying arms, and in return for immunity from prosecution disclosed details of the plot to the police. Subsequent investigations in Doha uncovered a large cache of arms under the floorboards of a house, and security officials have been hunting since then for more caches, so far without success.

Galloping inflation, crippling debt

Victory may prove pyrrhic for the soldiers' successors

Andrew Thompson reports from Buenos Aires on the economic crisis facing the victors of Sunday's elections in Argentina. This is the second of three articles.

With inflation running at an annual rate of 381.8 per cent, unemployment in the region of 15 per cent, and delays and complications piling up in the complex renegotiation of the country's heavy foreign debt, the party which wins next Sunday's elections in Argentina will inherit a difficult challenge on the economic front.

The essential problem is political. After seven years of military rule real wages remain below 1974 levels, as do other economic indicators such as industrial production and gross domestic product per capita.

To seek constitutional stability, the election winners will need to offer at least some improvements in living standards. Indeed there is already a danger that campaign promises are leading to rising popular expectations which will be difficult to satisfy.

"For the first time in Latin America, Argentina and other countries are returning to democracy in the midst of a major economic crisis. This is historically unprecedented," says Señor Oscar Camillón of the Movement for Integration and Development. The dilemma is whether it is possible to generate domestic economic recovery and at the same time the type of surplus on the trade balance capable of covering the heavy debt servicing burden.

The dramatic nature of Argentina's foreign debt problem is underlined by the

reckless way debts were incurred during military rule. No one knows exactly how much the country owes. The Central Bank's latest estimate is slightly over \$406bn (£266bn), but the bank's president admits this excludes the "secret debts" incurred to buy arms.

The Peronists and the Radicals, the electoral front-runners, believe that it is possible to create economic breathing space. Both are promising to increase real wages, which, they say, will boost consumption.

It is believed continued inflation can be controlled by cutting back the military budget, watching state spending,

and setting up a social pact between labour and capital to cover prices and incomes.

The parties point out with some reason that the fundamentals of the Argentine economy are promising. The country is self-sufficient in oil and rich in other natural resources, particularly wheat and cereals (hence the old saying "a good harvest solves this country's problems").

The paradox of the past 40 years is precisely that the economy has stagnated repeatedly despite its natural advantages.

Whoever forms the next government, it will find its crisis management skills stretched to the limit.

Tomorrow: Foreign policy

Leading article, page 13

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Prisoners of conscience



Soviet Union: Mikhail Kukobaka

By Caroline Moorehead

Mikhail Kukobaka is starting a hunger strike on Sunday to protest against human rights violations in Russia.

A 46-year-old bulldozer driver, he is serving a three-year sentence in a labour camp for allegedly disseminating slanderous fabrications about the Soviet state and social system. October 30 is Political Prisoners' Day in Russia.

Mr Kukobaka first fell out with the authorities in September, 1968, when he visited the Czech Consulate in Kiev to express outrage at the Soviet invasion. Protests of this kind earned him six years' internment in psychiatric hospitals.

After his release, he openly praised Sakharov and Gribchenko and wrote essays on his hospital experiences and childhood, which circulated in samizdat. By October, 1978, he was in a labour camp.

In October, 1981, when his sentence was due to expire, he was rearrested. It was thought he would be declared insane and returned to psychiatric hospital.

Instead, the authorities ruled him accountable and he stood trial at Elekt in the Lipetsk region, receiving a new three-year strict-regime sentence in a labour camp.

"I am frightened of prison, of camps, of inhuman asylums," he has written, "but I am more frightened of lies, base behaviour and my own participation in either of these than of any prison."



Mr Kukobaka: A marked man since 1968.

Tight security and palm trees for Qatar summit

By Our Foreign Staff

Stringent security precautions are being taken in Doha, the capital of Qatar in the Gulf, for the summit meeting there in early November of the Gulf Cooperation Council. But the preparations are being made in such an atmosphere of mystery that Doha residents have not even been told the dates of the conference.

The state-controlled radio and television service has mentioned that Qatar is acting as host, but has given no details. The only visible signs that something unusual is to occur early in November is that the country's borders have been closed to all but a few visitors until November 20, and thousands of palm trees have sprung up overnight along the Corniche, the road encircling Doha harbour and leading to the spectacular Sheraton Hotel

where the conference will be held.

The Sheraton itself has been closed to visitors and is operating on a skeleton staff while the whole hotel is redecorated. The red-uniformed guards of Shaikh Khalifa al Thani, the ruler, have sealed off the conference centre, and it is expected that the whole country will be sent on holiday for the conference period.

The Corniche, Doha's main artery, will be closed to the public. Residents expect a curfew to be imposed at a day's notice.

One privileged group who will be allowed in is Southampton Football Club, due to play an exhibition game in Doha during the conference.

The anxieties of Shaikh Khalifa's Government have been intensified since mid-summer by the discovery of an apparent coup attempt.



Shaikh Khalifa: No strong challengers.

In July a Libyan national was arrested in Rome accused of carrying arms, and in return for immunity from prosecution disclosed details of the plot to the police. Subsequent investigations in Doha uncovered a large cache of arms under the floorboards of a house, and security officials have been hunting since then for more caches, so far without success.

THE ARTS

Television

Words that linger

Frank Delaney has a programme called, fittingly enough, *Frank Delaney* (BBC 2). He deserves the over-emphasis, however, since he must be unique among television interviewers: he has an instinct for conversation and, however arcane the theme, is able to create a kind of intimacy with his interlocutor. There are sometimes sticky passages, of course; however universal your writing, he was telling Jorge Luis Borges last night, there is still that indefinable and elusive South American something. "That's because I was born in South America," Borges told him. Enough said.

The programme was about the literature of that continent, which in recent years has become a Klondike of prose fiction. A few odd seams and

suggests were once reported, but now these seams seem to be gold everywhere. Mario Vargas Llosa, the Peruvian novelist, described the "strange, plural identity" out of which that literature has sprung: "In Latin America, fiction and reality are intimately mixed". From this discussion, the idea emerged of a civilization at the same stage of fluidity and growth as nineteenth-century England - although novelists have the added advantage that the South American public seems almost Icelandic in its devotion to books. "Literature is important, not just an entertainment." This is a good illusion.

And then Jorge Luis Borges, the professor of illusion, appeared. He resembled a mole who has stumbled into the light but still retains the warmth and



Borges: professor of illusion.

secret of his other life. For Borges, that life consists of words and the sound of words - "a good, lingering word, isn't it?" he said of one specimen from his capacious board of languages. His head is full of sentences and cadences; a remarkable man and, as a result, a remarkable programme.

Peter Ackroyd

Concerts

Groping back in time

LSO/Hickox Festival Hall/Radio 3

About the curious history behind "The Great British Music Festival", the six-concert collaboration by the four independent London orchestras which was launched on Sunday, more later in the week: it will not have escaped the observer that there is another joint series of programmes of the contemporary orchestral repertoire, "Music of Eight Decades", opening in the same hall in a few days. Why?

Once you get past the absurd flag-waving title with its distasteful Little Englander overtones, there are some interesting things in this series. It was an apt notion to start with Tippett's *Ritual Dances* of 1952 that preceded the completion of his *Midsummer Marriage*: one could draw a fascinating curve of British orchestral music influenced by these rich, resourceful and wholly original pieces. Unfortunately few of the consequences of Tippett's adventures are in this series; instead we grope back in time to such harmlessly undemanding pieces as Lennox Berkeley's *Cello Concerto*.

As everyone must know by now, this was composed in 1939 but Berkeley put it in a drawer and forgot he had ever written it. It was revived at this year's Cheltenham Festival and was brought to London for the first time with Moray Welsh as the energetic, sympathetic soloist. I now fully expect to forget I ever heard it.

The LSO sounded pretty scrawny in those two works, despite Richard Hickox's firm, confident direction. So it was left to John Tavener's *The Whale* to bring spice to the evening, and what a nostalgic aroma it created, with its *echi*-*sthesia* theatricality and flamboyance.

Timothy West's elegant dictionary reading could not banish memories of Alvin Liddell, but Felicity Pao and Stephen Varcoe brought bold assurance to their Latin declamation, and the London Symphony Chorus chattered with conviction right up to the final vomit. Even Tavener does not write them like that any more: an age has passed.

Nicholas Kenyon

Les Arts florissants Wigmore Hall

A superb concert. You may have been surprised to see that this group from Paris, which had never appeared before in this country, won the prize in the baroque category of the Gramophone record awards for 1983. No need to be surprised after Saturday night: this is an outstandingly interesting and accomplished ensemble, which performs its chosen repertoire with a degree of sophisticated characterization and technical skill that leaves others far behind.

Les Arts florissants takes its name from a small dramatic piece by Marc-Antoine Charpentier, of which we heard a tantalizing fragment and encore at the end of the concert.

Dance

Dance Umbrella ICA

Two choreographers showing works at the ICA Theatre on Saturday shared one approach: taking tiny movements and repeating them almost obsessively before moving to another. The detail of some of Robert Kovich's actions was minute, for instance shaking just his hand, or his hair, or even his eyelids.

With a background among the prize American avant-gardists (Bennington College and Judith Dunn's company) and a sound technical foundation (he worked for years with Merce Cunningham, whose standards are exacting), Kovich seems to use the methods of the new dance for sometimes almost old-fashioned ends, such as the duet where he is a man walking through a forest and his partner, Séguine Colin, apparently represents the tarantula that attacks him.

In his solo, *Decoy*, he is probably a penguin, but the by-play with a squeaky little whistle, the repeated strutting, the strange attack to one side, can grow tiresome, so that the sad ending comes oddly after so many comic effects. I could not see why one duet was called *Pin-Up* and I wondered how its patterns (unison or in canon, related or unrelated movements) could ever have justified its original 50-minute length for a larger cast: the 20 minutes or

so that we saw seemed long-winded.

Sue Maclean's *New Moves* does last about 50 minutes and it is too much. She is trying an interesting idea, using dancers, and non-dancers as two separate groups within a dance work, but to make the most of that she needs stronger and better-shaped performers for the dance sections. "Herself," excepted, that is - and she appears only for a few minutes at the end.

John King's score for a prepared violin and repetitive piano was effective but intermittent; more of that, less nonsense-talk by the dancers and a tighter, richer choreographic texture would have made more of Maclean's ideas.

John Percival

● The Royal Ballet's performances at Covent Garden during December and January include the premieres of a new ballet by David Bintley (as yet untitled, set to Stravinsky's *Concerto for Piano and Wind*) and Richard Alston's *Midsummer*, set to Tippett's *Fantasia* - concertante on a theme of Corelli.

● *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, with Dana as Snow White, opens at the Phoenix Theatre on December 13 for a limited season. Basil Churchill directs this adaptation by his brother Dennis, and the musical director is Dave Gold. The production was originally written as a Christmas show by Arthur Martyn and presented at the Streatham Theatre in 1938.

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من 15 من ايلول

THE ARTS

Galleries

Dramatic events so subtly staged

Annabel Cullen/Suzanne Le Blanc
Paton

Emilio Tadini
Edward Totah

Glenn Sujo:
Impossible Meetings
Anne Berthoud

Giulio Ciniglia
Barbican Sculpture Court

Julian Hawkes
Juda Rowan

While the warranted big, important shows are usually on for a fair length of time, giving one every opportunity to plant a probably quite unnecessary bush outside the door to their good wine, so often the shows which really need a push and a pointer are off almost before the critic has had a proper chance to signal that they are on. That tends particularly to be the case with shows of living artists, especially the young and little-known: if you see it towards the middle of one week, and for some reason cannot fit it immediately in the next, you find yourself pathetically pointing out that it is on for only three or four days more and exhorting your readers, inconveniently, to rush and see it while it is still around. All the same, better late than never, and so I hope you will bear with me, this week and next, if, in my attempts to keep you up to date with what is happening in London this busy autumn, I seem to be advising you to do the impossible.

For example, I think it would be well worth your while, should you find yourself in Covent Garden before the end of the week, to look in on two quite unpretentious shows right around the corner from each other, that devoted to two very new women artists, Annabel Cullen and Suzanne Le Blanc, at the Paton Gallery, 2

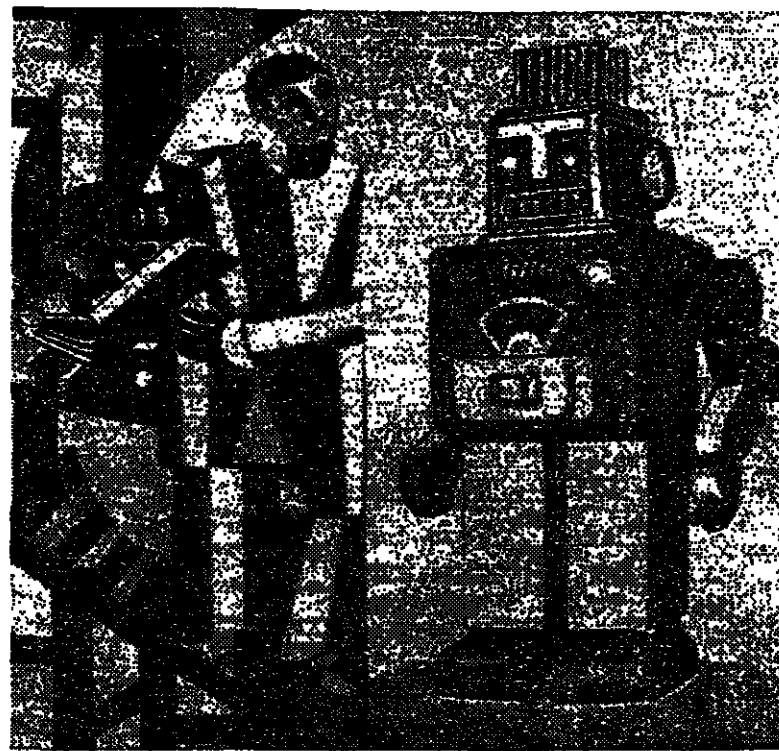
Langley Court, and that of the recent work of Emilio Tadini at the Edward Totah Gallery, 39 Floral Street. And, while you are about it, you would be conveniently placed to see Glenn Sujo's show *Impossible Meetings* at the Anne Berthoud Gallery, 1 Langley Court, which is actually on until November 12.

Annabel Cullen and Suzanne Le Blanc could hardly be more disparate. They both graduated this year, Cullen from the Royal College and Le Blanc from the Slade, and they were both included in this year's *Pick of the New Graduates* show at Christie's. But otherwise it is difficult to see anything in common between Cullen's large, confident, meticulously realistic (though not exactly photo-realistic) portraits and nudes, and Le Blanc's abstracted landscapes or landscape-based abstractions. Except, perhaps, a quality of thought.

This is something easy to feel and difficult to measure. But in Cullen's informal triptych downstairs, of herself and a man in various stages of dressing or undressing, along with the painting upstairs, evidently from the same period but this time identified as a *Self portrait*, you can feel an interest in psychological tensions, in setting up an obscure dramatic event, which takes us beyond the subtle and highly skilled observation of surfaces.

Le Blanc paints what are still just about recognizable landscapes, small in mixed media and then large in oils. At first glance one thinks maybe of Ivon Hitchens, but over and above Hitchens-like fluency with paint there is a clear intelligence teasing out the hidden structures of landscape, the value of what is observed as symbol of what cannot be observed. In particular the large painting *Bracken*, a blaze of gold dazzlingly superimposed on a tangle of dark, rich greens and undergrowth colours, is a winner, strongly suggesting that the painter may prove an important addition to a very persistent, very British school of responders to Nature (with, necessarily, I think, a capital "N").

Quite coincidentally, there are certain superficial similarities between the works of Emilio Tadini and those of Glenn Sujo. Both of them, for instance, make telling play with elements of popular iconography, especially those which have perhaps been most widely influential



Scrupulously ill-matched: Glenn Sujo's *Jeune Homme et Odalisque (a Giorgione)*

during the last half-century, the creations of Walt Disney. Of the two painters, Sujo seems to be the more assured and also the more sophisticated and knowledgeable: the "impossible meetings" of his title are between unlikely characters but also between scrupulously ill-matched styles and epochs of twentieth-century art history.

In his previous show, at the ICA, he was frankly and directly autobiographical, providing the references to family portraits, political events of his youth and stories which had captured his imagination in a fascinating series of visual footnotes. Here the imagery is more accessible to everybody, since he is not the only person to have been brought up on Little Nemo and the Katzenjammer Kids, not to mention *Pinochio*, and to have discovered Ingres, Léger and Lang's *Metropolis* at a slightly more advanced stage. Perhaps in the process of "going public" the images have lost a little of their mystery, but the works on paper especially pack quite a wallop of their own: one never feels, to Sujo's credit, that the energy of his work is stolen from his sources of reference, but always that he creates it for himself.

Tadini also offers drawings as well as paintings, all with puzzling and allusive titles. The difference between drawings and paintings is more one of finish than of size, since they are all on canvas and some of the drawings

are bigger than some of the paintings. On the whole, I think the drawings are better more direct and more closely related to the traditional still-life, though not disdaining a certain amount of play with the illusionistic side of picture-making. The paintings show a strong sense of composition, binding together the heterogeneous elements of Tadini's imagery into effectively complex structures. On the other hand, the colour sense, so clear and subtle in the drawings, becomes oddly muddled in the finished acrylic compositions, and the texture of the paint itself is faintly disagreeable. That may, of course, be the intention: since I cannot make any sense at all of the painter's extensive statement on his work, I could not say for sure.

At least all the classical references in Tadini's writings do not loom too portentously in his work. Would that one could say the same for Giulio Ciniglia, a selection of whose sculptures makes up the first show to use the Sculpture Court of the Barbican Centre (until December 11). I get increasingly the feeling that one should always fear the worst when a sculptor (or his admirers) insists on his role of continuum and extending the classical tradition in the face of modern madness. It has been said by or on behalf of Iphigeneia, of Plazotta and of many more. But, he it noted, though it is in fact quite true of Henry Moore, you would never

catch him saying it. These self-conscious evokers of classical craftsmanship and inspiration always seem to end up the same way: slippery surfaces flashily rendered, big themes writ small, and a disconcerting slide from sentiment to sentimentality.

Ciniglia's sculptures live up pretty well to all these qualifications. They have the slick surfaces and grandiosity of the sort of sculpture favoured by the Italian authorities in his youth (he was born in 1931), but something like the marble *Narciso* is given a modish twist by being flayed on one side, or a bronze like *Killerman* is updated with some minor displacement of features. In *Sogno di Bruto* the bits and pieces are even more disarranged, so that the whole thing looks like a very large version of one of those desk-puzzles for artistically inclined executives. The total effect of so much slickness is faintly nauseating, and, no, on this occasion I do not think that can possibly be the artist's intention.

The best way to get the taste of that out of one's mouth, I should say, is to run straight over to the Juda Rowan Gallery in Tottenham Mews, where until November 4 there is a show of recent work by a much less known and far superior sculptor, Julian Hawkes. He spent some years as assistant to Philip King, but, except perhaps for a certain lightness of touch, one would never know it, since his own work is very different. He works with equal ease in stone, wood and metal, and specializes in free, organic-seeming forms which evoke all sorts of - extraneous associations, I was about to say, but it is the trick and the charm and the force of these pieces that you cannot finally dismiss anything as extraneous: no association, however remote it may seem from the indications of the titles (usually quite innocent-sounding), can be totally irrelevant.

Several of the pieces have obvious, watery connexions, and some of them are frankly but all ever so slightly, erotic. The delight is that you are kept guessing, and your imagination working overtime. No pretensions claim made, but it does not require much perception to see that, where the essentials are concerned, Hawkes's sculpture is like Sister Kate's shimmy: quite simply, he does it, and does it good.

John Russell Taylor

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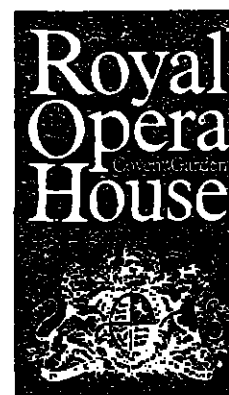
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VOLVO

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

FASHION EDITOR'S
COMMENT

Is London the leader of the pack?

The fashion collections unbuttoned over the last three weeks are supposed to have proved - especially to the Americans - that "London swings again".

It is fashionable to claim that our designers lead where others fear to tread; that styles that have become internationally accepted have been spawned in our own streets.

It is true that our eclectic, eccentric British street style is a fashion inspiration and that we export design talent. But there is an international standard by which all designers who put their collections on a catwalk must be judged.

By that immutable standard of aesthetic judgment, most of our London designer shows are uncreative, unexciting, and unworthy of overseas attention, except for a buyer looking for a collection of pretty clothes.

Nothing wrong with being a stylist

This fact is equally true of collections in Italy, Paris and New York, as well as the other centres where fashion trade fairs are held. The difference is that London designers use our so-called "creativity" as a duster coat to cover up bad make, sloppy details and poor accessorizing.

High fashion is 20 per cent creativity and 80 per cent execution. It is about standards of excellence and a consistent perception of how a woman should look. It is nothing at all to do with being backed by limitless resources (the dream and gripe of many London designers). Zandra Rhodes, who believes passionately in what she is doing and is a truly original fashion talent, put on a show that could stand alongside any international production.

Many so-called designers in Britain give themselves an importance and status far removed from their real role in the fashion world. "Designer collection" is used to describe a range of clothes made by any small company of which one key 'name' is in control.

British street style is a phenomenon

In France, they make a distinction between a 'stylist' and a 'creator' - the latter being a creative designer who sets trends.

There is nothing wrong with being a "stylist". It is professionally more comfortable (and commercially more practical) to change the buttoning on a blazer than to challenge our accepted ideas. But fashion editors are like theatre critics, who are happy to see either Shakespeare or Cinderella, but like the actors to know which production they are in.

The only fashion area in which Britain really scores is in making individual and original clothes on a one-man-band basis. This kind of skill is being demonstrated at the current Chelsea Crafts Fair and is seen in its finest fashion flowering in our hand-knits.

Our street style is another fashion phenomenon, and one which supplies a surge of ideas - mostly fun, sometimes seminal.

But London's fashion designers seem unable to absorb street style, to assimilate and interpret it.

Between the street and the designer elite in London there is a gulf wider than the Atlantic - and apparently more difficult to cross. Perhaps it is true, as an American expressed it to me in Paris, that the British prefer to wear their fashions than to sell them. Or, to put it another way, ideas are free, but high fashion requires a vast expenditure - of effort, energy and hard work.

The Knitwear Revolution by Suzy Menkes is published on Thursday by Bell & Hyman, £10.95.

BOW
JEST

Bows have tied a new knot in winter party fashion. The flat black bow in the witty accessory of the season, dressing up slick sharp clothes. They come from head to toe, on shoes, slides, and sparkly suspended earrings. Bow peep, sugar sweet bows decorate shoulders and hems like children's party frocks. Matt black bows are tied Chanel-style in sleek hair for a more sophisticated style. Who ever dreamt it up should take a bow.

Left Neck Bow. For a red and black printed polyester blouse by Nipon, also black/tan, £45 from Options, Austin Reed, Regent Street, W1 and branches; Tizzy, Malvern; L'Hirondelle, Camberley. Hair Bow. In black organza on slide, £2.99 from Schumi, 16 Port Street, SW1 and branches. Belt Bow. Black patent and suede belt by Otto Glanz, £25 from Selfridges. Red perspex earrings from Florio, 126 King's Road, SW3. Black silk skirt from Fenwick.

Right Back Bow. On a black velvet cocktail dress by Bruce Oldfield, £200 to order from 41 Beauchamp Place, SW3. Ear Bow. Tied in pink ribbon on a crystal earring, £35. Wrist Bow. Crystal and jet necklace with black satin bow, £76. By Monty Don from Harvey Nichols; Liberty's; mail order catalogue from 40-43 Rheidol Terrace, Rheidol Mews, London, N1 (enclose sae). Gold plated and black velvet dining chair from £145, Bambu Collection at Harrods.

Hair by AYO for SCHUMI. Make-up by BONNIE for BOOTS NO. 7. Autumn colours from the Cool, Calm and Collected range. Photographs by RUSSELL MALKIN. Story by CHRISTINE PAINELL.



Waist bow. Royal blue silk sash on evening dress with shoulder bows, £160 from all branches of Monsoon. Hair bow. Royal blue pleated satin bow on comb, £7.75 by Graham Smith at Kangol from Harrods hat department. Gift chair from Harrods.

Top right: Silver leather peep toe courts with silver and black asymmetric beaded bow, £180 by Andrea Pfister at Rayne, 57 Brompton Road, SW3; Harrods; Harvey Nichols. Lace tights from Fogal, 30 New Bond Street, W1. **Bottom right:** Black suede court shoes with fuchsia satin bow and lacing at back, £145 from selected branches of Russell & Bromley. Sheer tights from Grable, 27 Conduit Street.



Hair Bow. On a comb in black organza £8.50 by Graham Smith at Kangol from Harrods hat department. Shoulder bow. On an asymmetric purple/black wool crepe dress with ties at wrist by Monica Chong, £130 from Simpson, Piccadilly, W1; Numbers, Welbeck Street, W1; The Clothes Shop, Weybridge; Jade, Kew Road, Surrey; Malvern; Chortley, Parkes, Oxford; Rosy, Altrincham. Earrings by Adrian Mann.

Top left: Black shoes with red beaded bow £92, also silver, from Rayne, 15 Old Bond Street, W1; Bottom left: Black suede sling-backs with open toe, also lamé, £110 from Manolo Blahnik, 49-51 Old Church Street, SW3.



Social life with the socialists

The social life of socialist France is booming.

On the hemline indicator of economic performance (down means depression) the Paris fashions should have caused a collapse on the Bourse. But while President Mitterrand's government tightened its economic belt and licked its local election wounds, the party machine was in full swing.

Paloma Picasso invited only 250 of her most intimate friends to the chic party she gave on Sunday at the Musée Jacquemart-André. What she spent on the candles (1,000 flares to greet the guests) she saved on her new perfume, which was the *raison d'être* of the party but nowhere in sight.

Next night, Dior took over Maxim's for the Battle of the Blondes. Svelte Parisian chanteuse Sylvie Vartan, dressed bullishly in Dior's scarlet matador's jacket and black trousers, spent the evening

staring frigidly at Ursula Andress's cleavage, decorated (also by Dior) in scarlet and black sequins.

Ms Andress won the first round by sitting next to Gérard Penneroux, the new ready-to-wear designer at Dior in whose honour the party was given. Sylvie Vartan retaliated by commanding Marc Bohan, Dior's couture designer, as her dinner date.

A brilliantly illuminated Chateau Maisons-Lafitte played host for Japanese designer Kenzo on Wednesday night. Just in case a dozen candelabras with dripping beeswax candles, a red carpeted entrance walk flanked with flares and the TV light were not enough to brighten his evening, Kenzo finished his show with a twenty minute display of fireworks. These were viewed through the steaming windows of his transparent tent (proving that people



Kenzo: fashion with fireworks

in glass houses should throw parties).

Inside the celebrated chateau, there were bushels of Japanese flowers (flown in from Tokyo), non stop videos (flown in from America), a fortune teller, a casino, a disco, a concert of classical music, three swiftly ravished buffets and many a magnum of champagne.

A rival attraction was staged by Italian photographer Toscani, whose helpmeet, dressed à la Fellini in a ring-master outfit of black tail coat, culled cult figures from the throng to be immortalized on camera. The chosen guests, including our own Steve Strange (in full make-up), our hat designer Stephen Jones (in a fez) and aristocratic model Ines de la Fressange (in Karl's new Chanel) rose to the photographic occasion by turning their appearances into an impromptu cabaret.

Also present at the little gathering, which went on until

5.00 am and closed the collections, were 2,800 intimate friends.

Yves Saint Laurent is the subject of Diana Vreeland's next exhibition at New York's Metropolitan Museum. Paris's favourite son is the perfect subject for the archivist because his line evolves so elegantly.

New to his collection were the familiar jersey chemises, this time gathered gently in at the hips above a short slim skirt. New were his mixes of colours for tunics and leather skirts, like lilac and lime yellow. New is the sleeveless dress, cut into a Y-shape from a wide shoulder line. New is the Norfolk back to the safari jacket, elongating the shape and updating the cut.

Africa was the beat that ran through the holiday and evening clothes, coming out in dark, rich prints and swags of beads, reminding us of the days when Saint Laurent searched distant lands for ethnic inspiration. His

sleeveless tops worn with full boules skirts in shot taffeta in fifties fluorescent colours were an echo of early days at Dior. And to remind us of the sensation he once caused with the see-through blouse, they appeared in transparent voile.

"I want to abolish the frontiers between couture and ready-to-wear and think of them all as creators," said culture Minister Jack Lang, when I talked to him at the weekend shows.

Dressed in his familiar casual style in an open-necked shirt, sweater, cord trousers and anorak, Lang elaborated on his plans for the new costume museum at the Louvre, the details of which were announced at a more formal gathering to honour the celebrated Madame Gres.

"The idea of the fashion museum is not just to show off the richness and diversity of French fashion," he explained. "We have got more than 20,000 costumes, but we also want to emphasise the present by showing what is done now in textiles, form and style. It will also be a centre of research."

On the same theme, the Comité Colbert, set up to honour the memory of the first French man to define and elaborate gallic style and taste, has mounted an exhibition. Leading French companies, from perfumiers, to jewellers, to wine chateaux to silversmiths, display their wares, historic and modern, in an imaginative exhibition that underlines the French search for perfection in areas that other countries consider to be frivolities.

ANTI-FREEZE

The autumn season is drawn in shades of black and grey and that means that accessories are the spots of colour. Coming through the grey haze is a deep cobalt blue and the inevitable bright red, with other primary shades looking strong against the quiet palette.

THE HOOD is the new winter warmer, fitting snugly round the face and often growing out of the neck of a sweater or pulled down into a cowl. The hood in its own right is the balalaika (from Fenwick and Miss Selfridge) in the bright colours or quieter autumn harvest shades of grape and currant.

THE HAT of the season is the beret, set basque-style on a striped band or a leather trim to grip the crown. Kangol have come up with berets in colour (from major stores) but you cannot beat onion-seller navy blue. The beret replaces the military peaked cap, but the new wave have found the fez. Coloured cones from Stephen Jones, 34 Lexington Street, W1.

SCARVES are long and thin, designed to be wrapped twice round the neck or tied fifties-style as a headscarf/hood for extra warmth. Dogtooth checks in black and white look right, so do stripes and geometric squares. Doubly chic is the idea of wearing two scarves in clashing colours: purple with orange, red with fuchsia, turquoise and emerald.

MITTS or fingerless gloves are young fashion-conscious handwear. For more sophisticated looks there are long striped knitted gauntlets (from Fenwick's) or leather gloves with contrast cuffs, especially Nancy

Fisher's two-tone black and white (Joanna's Tent, Kings Road).

WRIST warmers, or ankle and tummy versions in bands of ribbed knitting, are a stylish way to beat the chill for those who like thermal heat to show. The wide knitted sweatbands for wrists come from C and A. The body version in fuchsia, cobalt blue and black from Whistles (St Christopher's Place and branches).

BELTS have moved back to the waist this winter, wide at front and back, curved narrower at the sides and newest in shiny black patent.

LEGS are on view again through plain sheer tights or are dressed up in fancy hose decorated in black lace patterns or surfaces with shimmer and sheen (from Harrods hostery or specialist West End shops like Grable and Fogal).

SHOES are set on slender waisted heels, relatively low, except for high evening. The newest heels are thickening up and the smartest styles are printed like python.

MAKE-UP is the other way to give colour to the blacks and greys of Autumn fashion. The clean lines of current clothes are echoed in sharply defined make-up used on a plain background face. For the first time for many seasons, the lips are as important as the eyes, with warm reds used to mould the mouth and much stronger colours used for nail polish.

HAIR is sleek and graphic with the asymmetric ideas in clothes sometimes echoed in the basic cut. The small head seems to be the shape of the season, which is just as well if we are to hide our crowning glory under a balalaika hood.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Getting the birdie

Now that he is photographed almost daily, I hope that Nigel Lawson has become more relaxed about facing the camera. Shortly before becoming a minister, he gave *Sunday Times* photographer Sally Soames a difficult time, insisting on seeing the prints before publication. Miss Soames told him that even Mrs Thatcher didn't make that kind of demand. Mr Lawson then insisted on seeing the contacts from which a choice is made. Miss Soames said that in her entire career only one other person had asked her that. "Who was that?" asked the future Chancellor. "Zsa Zsa Gabor," said Miss Soames.

Off beam

Sixty Minutes, BBC TV's new early evening magazine programme, has enough electronic hardware on board to turn the world into a global village. One major purchase is a links vehicle to enable interviews to take place on location for instant transmission. Unfortunately, tall buildings get in the way of this amazing process and one of the few places where the vehicle performs well is the car park at Lime Grove.

Never on Sunday

One telephone call which Mrs Thatcher won't be answering when she is the guest on the *World Phone-In* on the BBC's World Service next Sunday is from Mr Earl Henry who lives on St Helena. Mr Henry would have liked to have placed a call but, on Sundays, there is no telephone service in or out of St Helena. Had there been, he would have asked the Prime Minister why St Helenians, who are British by culture, descent, tradition and language, don't have the right to become British citizens. He lives in hope of a telex. With just a few days to go before the programme, 47 questions from Johore Bahru, Quissac, Bangalore and points north, south, east and west are awaiting a prime ministerial reply. This is more than awaited previous guests David Attenborough, Yehudi Menuhin, Bobby Charlton and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Uncovered

On a whirlwind trip to Paris to find John and decide between him and Oliver, she hears of an exciting archaeological find which would make a first-class best-seller as a book. Without consulting her firm etc. etc. So runs the blurb of *Juliet in Publishing*, disinterred this month from the "Twenty-seven Years Ago" column of the literary magazine *Books and Bookmen*. B & B wrote then that the identity of the author, "Elizabeth Churchill", was a mystery. Not any more. E. Churchill is the alias of Richard Hough, more recently famous as the author of *Edwina*, *Countess Mountbatten*. He thought up the pseudonym on the spur of the moment, as the book was going to press. A liberated spirit, even then, Hough granted his heroine, Juliet, both a brilliant career and a fiancé "who displays an interest in publishing and looks like giving up his farming".

BARRY FANTONI



Silent service

Unusually for a professional lobbyist, Roland Freeman, Tory politician turned Social Democrat, whose company is paid £37,500 by the GLC to press for its continued existence, is not speaking to the press. "You can't lobby properly if you are always making public pronouncements," he said yesterday. "We have made it a fairly strict rule that the politicians do the talking."

Clean sweep

Fired by this column's obvious partiality to mongoose stories, Dr Georges Ware of the Department of Bacteriology, University of Bristol, is the latest to declare himself. Mongooses are expensive pets, he reminds me, not only because of the delight they take in uprooting house plants, but also because "no mongoose-proof bag clasp has yet been devised". His very own Mingle was kept on cigarettes, which she would ferret out unerringly and destroy. But "perhaps her most memorable and expensive excursion was the day she climbed our chimney, crossed the roof tops and came down the chimney of a house several doors away appearing, covered in soot, during a dinner party". Not satisfied with having scared the wits out of the dinner and dusted each one evenly with soot, she sampled their dinner and then returned home by the same route and demanded that I bath her at once. Mingle, Mingle's mate, was even worse, my correspondent adds. The mind boggles.

PHS

Lebanon: no way out for Reagan

Beirut

When President Mitterrand arrived at the French ambassador's residence in Beirut yesterday he appeared untroubled, almost nonchalant. In stark contrast was the scene in the French compound 200 yards away. Three coffins were piled outside a dark green military tent. Every few seconds, a man wearing a mask would emerge from the tent. He would tear off the mask and breathe deeply before returning inside.

Even as the President of France was preparing to address his officers in the nineteenth century residence, his dead soldiers were being prepared for their last journey home scarcely a stone's throw away.

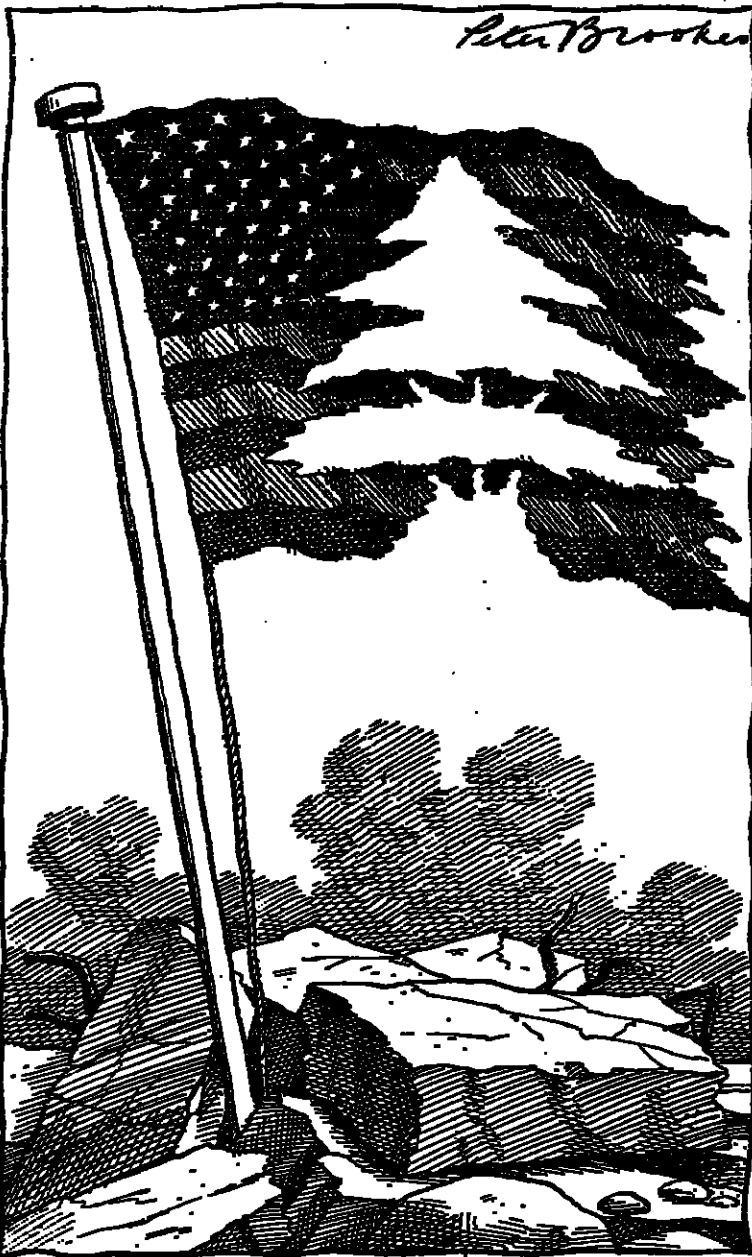
Closer concentration on the President's words nevertheless suggested that he was well aware of what the mass slaughter on Sunday really meant. He did not want to talk to journalists. He might make a statement, he said, when he returned to Paris. That was all.

He made no declarations of continued French military support for Lebanon, no expressions of personal admiration for President Amin Gemayel who stood, nervous and red-faced, at his side. The Lebanese officials standing nearest to Mitterrand looked worried; and so they probably should be.

In Paris, French government officials have been making no false promises to the Gemayel regime these past 48 hours. French troops would remain in Beirut "for the present" was all Pierre Mauroy, the Premier, would say, and French diplomats in Beirut are now unwilling to discuss the future of their military mission. Not long ago President Reagan angered the French by declaring that Chad - in whose future the Americans had become much exercised - was in France's field of interest to protect. How easy might it be for President Mitterrand to announce with appropriate understanding that Lebanon was now Washington's problem.

The Lebanese government already understands this. A Lebanese intelligence officer came up to me a few hours after the bombings that killed more than 200 American and French soldiers. He had already worked out the equation. "Will the Americans now stay?" he asked. "Do you think they will carry on?"

The French could leave without too much loss of face. The Italians might be able to stay on in some humanitarian capacity. The departure of the small British contingent might hardly be noticed. But the Americans are trapped. If they leave, they will be seen as abandoning the Middle Eastern nations whom President Reagan likes to describe as "Arab friends" will trust the United States. How can you place confidence in a superpower which cuts and runs when the going gets tough?



Yet the going is likely to get a lot tougher still and the US is likely to gain few political dividends by its continued presence.

Little wonder then that the Syrians and PLO are able to gloat with such unctuous veracity about America's second Vietnam.

Just how the Americans can stay in Lebanon is now the subject of heated discussion in both Washington and Beirut. Yesterday morning, General Paul Kelly, Commander of the US Marine Corps, left Washington for Beirut, ostensibly to visit his men, but the Lebanese government suspects that he is in fact coming to discuss the feasibility of sending a US "security force" into Lebanon, a unit quite separate from the marine contingent, that would act in the

marines' defence, thus permitting the US to fulfil both a peacekeeping and, if necessary, an offensive role. It would also, of course, increase the US presence here.

Even if the marine contingent remained at a ceiling of 1,600 men, it might need an equal number to defend them in the absence of other multinational force contingents. So how high could American military strength go? 3,000? 6,000? President Reagan has often said that he sees no reason why the numbers should grow. But that was before last Sunday. Without the multinational force, the Lebanese army could not hope to rule even the Lebanese capital.

The military quagmire looks awesome. The political trap in

which the Americans now find themselves is equally disturbing. Having committed the US to the preservation of President Gemayel's regime, Mr Reagan has now lent his country's name to a reconciliation conference which - if it starts in Geneva in six days time - will discuss nothing less than the breaking of relations between Lebanon and America's ally, Israel.

If the conference is to succeed, then Lebanon will emerge a more Arab - or "Arabized" - country, closer to Damascus than before and almost hostile to Israel. Syria believes that its protégés at the meeting - the triumvirate leadership of the so-called National Salvation Front, which includes the Druze leader Walid Jumblatt - will ensure that Israel loses every advantage it might have gained from its invasion of Lebanon last year.

Syria will have a representative at that conference, but the Americans suspect that Syria, along with Iran, played a role in Sunday's bombings. So can the US accept a conference result that does not suit its interests or which coincides with the interests of those whom the White House believes are America's enemies?

The administration in Washington talks of "retaliation" for the bombings. But against whom? Against Iran? Or against Syria, with its carpets of Soviet-made and - in some cases - Soviet-crewed missiles?

Other alternatives are open to the US. With the presidential elections coming ever closer, it would do Mr Reagan no domestic harm to move politically nearer to Israel, to permit Israel - the Arabs would contend it was encouraging Israel - to attack Syria, although the Israelis are unlikely to have much enthusiasm for such a conflict unless their occupation of southern Lebanon becomes more painful.

For its part, Syria is still prepared to walk the tightrope, with Moscow's assistance. When the battleship New Jersey arrived off Beirut, the Russians obligingly shipped SS-21 ground-to-ground missiles into Syria. If the Americans could shoot at the Syrians from a battleship, the Soviets were prepared to make sure that the Syrians could shoot at the battleship.

It might be well for Lebanon - and for the American marines there - if some kind of dialogue could begin between Washington and Moscow on the Middle East before events get further out of control. Given President Reagan's current thinking on East-West relations and the suspicions of Mr Andropov's geriatric leadership, Lebanon is likely to move further into chaos, helped along by the carnage of last Sunday's bombings.

Robert Fisk

Brian Crozier

Concessions as before

True believers are always disappointed by the performance of their political leaders once in office. The charge has been made that British and American foreign policies have changed but little since the advent of conservative governments. What, ever the truth of the charge in Britain and the United States, it can certainly be sustained in the Federal Republic, which labours under the anomaly that Chancellor Helmut Kohl has the same foreign minister, Dr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, as did Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

It is rather as though Dr Owen (before his conversion) and Mr Cyrus Vance still presided over the Foreign Office and the State Department respectively. The Bavarian leader, Dr Franz Josef Strauss, had hoped to get the job, but without Genscher and his band of liberals (FDP), Kohl would lose his majority.

Unfortunately for the western alliance, Genscher (unlike Owen) has not undergone repentance and conversion. If any doubt remained, it should have been dispelled by his predictably abortive 11 hours of talks with Mr Gromyko last week in Vienna.

The Soviet foreign minister is reported to have brusquely rejected all Dr Genscher's arguments urging reconsideration of President Reagan's latest proposals for a "build-down" of long-range nuclear weapons. My information is that the President made these proposals in the first place after having been repeatedly urged to do so by Genscher.

More alarming than Gromyko's snub is that the two men agreed that the planning staffs of their foreign ministries should henceforth meet regularly to discuss disarmament in particular. Their first meeting will be held very soon.

The arrangement is unfortunate in a technical sense because the Soviet foreign ministry (as I explained in *The Times* last February) does not formulate foreign policy anyway, but takes its instructions from the International Department of the Central Committee.

But the more substantial objection is that despite Genscher's disclaimer in Vienna, his initiatives amount to a usurpation of America's natural role in the handling of arms control negotiations with the Soviets.

The German foreign minister is formally committed to Nato's "two-track decision" of December 1979 to

install the new American missiles if no progress had been made by the end of 1983 in negotiations with the Soviet Union on the control of intermediate-range missiles in Europe. But he is visibly the captive of his own phrase, frequently iterated during the long years of Social Democratic rule: "There is no alternative to détente."

Détente is dead, but Genscher has not noticed its demise. His new slogan is "continuity of foreign policy". Like Mitterrand, Genscher favours aid to Nicaragua, opposition to El Salvador and friendship for Swaziland in Namibia. Unlike Mitterrand, he favours more Western concessions to the Soviets in the Geneva talks, presumably to avoid the need to deploy the new weapons. To be fair, France is not committed to deploying the Pershing IIs and the cruise missiles, which makes it easier for the French President to take a tough line.

One of the most unfortunate consequences of Kohl's decision to keep Genscher in his old job has been that Strauss, in his disappointment, has been driven to upstage his rival. His most spectacular, though not his only, move in this undeclared contest was his involvement in the billion-mark credit to East Berlin by a consortium of private banks.

Although there was no formal government guarantee for the credit, it has been claimed that if East Berlin does not meet the interest payments (at about 6 per cent), the West Germans will be able to put pressure on the defaulters by cutting payments to East Germany under existing treaty arrangements. This is an unconscionable claim, and it is hard to see the credit as anything other than a demonstration, by Strauss, that he is not necessarily the ultimate hardliner he is usually held to be, and can be flexible on occasion; and above all, that he is better fitted to run West Germany's foreign policy than the present incumbent.

In the last resort, this kind of exercise is inevitably damaging in that it amounts to a contest to discover which of the two men is the better at making concessions to the East. It is a contest which, in the nature of things, Genscher is the more likely to win.

Only Helmut Kohl can end it on terms favourable to the alliance by exerting the kind of leadership in foreign affairs which as yet he has so clearly been reluctant to do.

Roger Scruton

Keeping in tune with tradition

Left-wing historians wax emotional over the "class solidarity" which grew from the miseries of the Industrial Revolution, and which - according to their version of events - was the principal impulse behind the Labour movement. I should like to pay tribute to another kind of solidarity which also has its origins in the Industrial Revolution, but which has proved more durable - the solidarity of the brass band.

The brass band movement is as old as the Labour movement and indeed, at the outset, hardly distinguishable from it. The Besses o' th' Barn Band, for example, was already active in 1821 and acquired its present fame after 1880, when the great Alexander Owen came to it from the equally old and equally famous Black Dyke Mills.

Most of the bands originated in works and collieries, and the instruments were purchased with money contributed by the players themselves. They have remained associations of musical amateurs, with all the catholicity of taste and variety of achievement that implies. But they are also more than associations, for they have gathered to themselves an extraordinary social ambience which is unmistakably British in its subdued pageantry and phlegmatic togetherness, and at the same time no mere rally of like-minded eccentrics.

The brass band movement, like the Labour Movement, has been associated with non-conformist religion (and with the Salvation Army in particular); with temperance, self-help and trade union rights. It bears the unmistakable imprint of the industrial proletariat. Unlike the Labour movement, however, it has not made a fetish of its origins and so has experienced no difficulty in transcending them. It endures as a remarkable institution of popular culture, recruiting its members from every trade and every social class. The Black Dyke Mills band numbers among its players a joiner, a teacher, several students, an engineer, a store manager, a wool buyer, an organ builder and tuner, a telecommunications engineer, a school caretaker, an export manager for a firm of sanitary goods, a carpet warehouse owner and a retired director of a manufacturing company. That mixture is by no means untypical.

The aesthete will look down upon such fertile forms of association, and upon the musical culture which they generate. For it is a culture wholly without "authenticity", a culture of transcriptions, medleys and arrangements, much of it based on hymn tunes, marches and popular song. It draws upon the common fund of musical, religious and moral experience, from which non-conformist religion shaped the social order of the industrial towns. How could such a congeries of old-fashioned decency measure up to the exacting standards of high art?

It is true that the bandstand is frequently wearisome, and seldom very subtle. But it is worth noting that the brass band movement has done more to spread the works of

high art than has ever been done by the cavillings of aesthetes.

Take Alexander Owen. When leader of the Besses o' th' Barn he arranged some of the most advanced music of his time for the benefit of his instrumentalists and their audience - including the Prelude to *Tristan and Isolde*, together with some further 20 minutes of music from what was, to contemporary ears, the most difficult of all modern scores. The brass band movement has also produced its own school of composers, and - with all due respect to the editorial injunction which tells me not to use "bourgeois" as a term of commendation, especially when praising the musical amateur - it is certain that names like Derek Bourgeois, Gilbert Vinter and Eric Ball with achieve an honourable and lasting place in our musical history.

Ball, who celebrates his eightieth birthday this month, is a fine example of the tradition which he sustains: a Salvation Army man, motivated by sincere and cheerful religious emotion, and with an ear nurtured on the works of Elgar and Parry, who has poured a public spirit of Athenian proportions into the copying vessels of the movement and enriched it with music which, for its feeling and craftsmanship, deserves a place in the classical tradition from which it descends.

The historian of the Labour movement would do well to attend the National Brass Band Festival, which takes place annually at the Royal Albert Hall in London, about the same time as the Labour Party conference. The audience, brought in coachloads from the towns and valleys of industrial England, is bound by a consuming common interest. The object of this interest is not material, but cultural. It is also competitive - competitions having been an essential part of the movement from its beginnings.

This element of rivalry both unifies the crowd and lends tone and gravity to the event transcends all narrow class identity, to make contact with a tradition of worship and song which aims to be the common property of mankind. And the whole occasion is imbued with a quiet, serious patriotism, a conscious sense of national identity, which finds culminating expression when the audience finally rises to sing the hymn which conveys the meaning of their movement - Parry's setting of "Jerusalem".

The lessons for the Labour historian are many. Socialist orthodoxy to the contrary, solidarity is not impeded but fostered by competition. It is a feeling, not of class, but of history. It grows not from shared material circumstances, but from a common culture. It expresses itself, not in the sentimental worship of a vanished era, but in a loyal and sober attachment to the country and its institutions. How far this is from that hysterical affirmation of class solidarity which, at every Labour Party conference, throws up its hoarsely divided cries for unity, and then peters out in a rendering of *Auld Lang Syne*.

Trevor Fishlock

Radio 4: a bracing dip or turn-off for the faithful?

Tampering with Radio 4 is one of the great British sins, falling somewhere between infanticide and the mistreatment of puppies. Naturally enough, it is a temptation to which no one will publicly confess, though the current state of affairs surrounding what was once the Home Service more than a little beguiling.

Last week's press conference about changes at 4, the first to be hosted by its new controller, David Hatch, did nothing to make matters clearer. Hatch, conscious of accusations that, because of his background - he was previously controller of Radio 2 and before that head of light entertainment - he wants a more downmarket 4, began the proceedings by announcing his devotion to the network's mix of programmes, drama, features, news and current affairs. And then he promptly disclosed details of a new morning experiment which, by its very nature, is seen by some hardline 4 devotees as the first trumpet blast of the approaching barbarian hordes.

The experiment goes on air each Thursday from 9am to noon for a trial six months starting next April, probably with the ubiquitous Richard Baker in the hot seat as presenter. His heretical qualities will lie in its style rather than its content. Radio 4's rigid morning schedules will be discarded to make way for a seamless three hours, shaped by the day's events rather than the rigid divisions set out in the *Radio Times*.

While elements of the present output, such as the morning service, will be retained, though probably in a modified fashion, the programme will be aimed at the casual listener instead of the hardline Radio 4 addict with the morning schedules pinned to the kitchen noticeboard. To anyone who is not hooked on Radio 4 it might seem a modest

innovation. But the idea that the Home Service is suddenly to be offered on a take-it-or-leave-it basis is anathema to the dyed-in-the-wool listener, reared on Reithian concepts, notably the idea that whatever goes out on 4 should be good enough to demand the effort of making an appointment to hear it.

But how real a threat to the old style of 4 does the "rollercoaster" experiment pose? Hatch is adamant that the experiment is just that, and says that talk of extending it to every weekday morning if it works is jumping the gun. Yet few people within the network are under any illusions about where the future lies: if the seamless new morning show can pull in the extra listeners for which 4 is looking, its style will be applied to every weekday morning, giving the network a smooth and flexible path from the highly successful *Today* programme, on past 9am into the watershed area of the morning where the ratings are wilting.

The net result would be considerably less drastic than some of the plans to throw everything but current affairs and news off 4 which were first leaked last year. That has categorically been dropped, according to Richard Francis, the managing director of the whole of the BBC's radio whose document, *BBC Radio for the Nineties*, fuelled some of the fears. In conversation with the Society of Authors, Francis has now said, "The edifice of Radio 4 is to remain and there will be no sacrifice of it to purely journalistic gods."

Yet the doubts remain, both within the BBC and outside. One senior Radio 4 figure, who declined to be identified, said: "Everyone expects more news because that's what Dick Francis knows about. We all know the way in which we are heading, and that is higher ratings and a less easily identifiable Radio

4. Essentially we break down into those who hate the idea of any change whatsoever, those who think some change would be a good thing, and those who can't wait to do anything which will improve the figures."

And there can be little doubt that in conventional terms, 4's audience needs some attention. The BBC never releases individual radio ratings, frequently even concealing them from the originators of the programmes involved. In part this stems from the corporation's fixation with its reliance on public money to pay for its output. If the public was aware how much went on catering for such minority audiences, the BBC could find itself open to charges of elitism, according to some of those keen to bring change to 4.

Unusually, Francis revealed a handful of ratings when he spoke to the Society of Authors. *Saturday Night Theatre's* audience had fallen from 1.3 per cent of the population in 1968 to 0.4 per cent now. Over the same period, the audience for the evening edition of *The Archers* had declined from 2.8 per cent of the population to 0.6 per cent. *Afternoon Theatre*, with a fall from 1.5 per cent to 1.1 per cent, had put in an encouraging performance, but the overall message was clearly a depressing one.

The "rollercoaster" experiment has been prompted by the discovery that audience figures dip sharply during the mornings, largely, it is thought, because listeners want to be able to move in and out of programmes casually, without having to wait out a fixed timetable.

But are ratings important? The old school of BBC thought would have rejected the idea outright. Come social change, come breakfast television, it would have pressed for the right of at least one BBC network to be able to base its content on its



Hatch: ironing out the seams

own internal judgments without resorting to measures of popular acclaim. Indeed, when virtually every other broadcasting medium sees ratings as the ultimate goal, does the public need more to chase the same hare? It is an argument which the BBC is peculiarly badly suited to address, since its foundation, the idea that a battle between the ideas of the past and the call of the future, is one which most BBC officials will publicly deny exists.

But Radio 4's difficulties are unlikely to escape public attention. Next month sees the inauguration of an organization called The Voice of the Listener, a pressure group formed out of the early fears for the future of Radio 4. Its founders, who include the writer and broadcaster Joceline Hay, are adamant that it will not be a BBC-baiting body opposed to any change, but will attempt to pursue a constructive dialogue with the corporation.

The pro-Radio 4 bias is clear among its ranks, however, and Francis and Hatch can expect some serious scrutiny when they come to meddle once more with the minority's beloved mornings.

David Hewson

The gruesome shot that could kill Death Row

New York There is a new execution room at the state prison in New Jersey. In keeping with the latest fashion, it is equipped for putting criminals to death by poisonous injection. It has a telephone in case of a last minute reprieve, and, in the event of the call coming through after the technicians have administered the lethal mixture, there is an emergency medical trolley with drugs that might reduce the effect of the injection and a machine to restore the rhythm of a failing heart.

Considering the confusion surrounding the death penalty in the US, and the scope for delays and eleventh hour dramas, the prospect of prison officials desperately trying to revive a prisoner their colleagues had earnestly been trying to kill no longer seems remote.

The emergency trolley in the New Jersey death chamber is, after all, a recognition of the possibility. And the recent experience of James Autry provided a grotesque example of the fine line between life and judicial death. It has also compounded confusion and uncertainty and

intensified public argument over capital punishment.

Autry, who had murdered a grocery shop assistant for three dollars worth of beer, was in execution chamber at Huntsville, Texas, about to become the second American to die by the new method. Although the time fixed for his death was a minute after midnight he had been strapped to a hospital trolley and wheeled to the chamber an hour earlier. Catheters were inserted into veins in his forearms and a harmless saline solution began to flow through them. Technicians were ready to squirt syringes of lethal drugs into the solution at the appointed time. Thus prepared, Autry lay staring at the ceiling. He had almost an hour to wait.

Outside the jail a crowd was chanting "kill him, kill him". Many of the people were schoolboys and college students who grinned for the photographers.

While this was going on, a lawyer at the Supreme Court in Washington wrote an appeal for a stay of execution. Half an hour before midnight a judge granted it. Prison officials kept Autry strapped down for another hour, in case the stay should be reversed.

He went to the death chamber because of the Supreme Court's impatience with legal manoeuvrings which delay most executions indefinitely. There are 1,230 people in American death cells and many have been kept alive for years by lawyers' exploitation of technicalities. Since the death penalty was restored in 1976 only seven prisoners have been executed.

There is evidence that the new method of execution is not so swift and painless as its proponents claim. A court in Washington has ordered the government's food and drug administration to investigate. A judge says there is substantial evidence that lethal injection poses a serious risk of cruel and protracted death.

Correction

The BBC Pronouncing Dictionary of British Names, referred to by Philip Howard yesterday, is published by the Oxford University Press, price £6.95.



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HOLDING THE LINE

Some decisions had to be taken quickly, such as the airlifting of a new company of U.S. Marines from North Carolina to replace the one that was virtually wiped out in the explosion at Beirut airport on Sunday Morning. Others either have been taken or will be in the next day or two, simply to maintain the continuity of the multinational peace-keeping operations and to make the lives of its members more secure, their positions more defensible.

But there are also strategic decisions to be taken, and those should not be governed by an immediate, inevitably emotional reaction to what has happened. To pull out in panic, spectacularly rewarding an act of savage and unprovoked violence, would be clearly wrong. But it would be equally wrong to allow righteous anger to dictate a pre-empting of decisions which require careful thought, by extending or expanding the multinational commitment to a task which is not clearly defined.

The immediate task is to hold the line. But while the military men are doing that, the political leaders have to define more clearly what the line is that is being held and to decide whether it is tenable militarily or politically. If not, they must establish a new line to secure, or to fail

back on. There is an urgent need to clarify objectives in Lebanon, and to reassess the means required to achieve them.

That was true before the Sunday bombings, and it is certainly not less true now. There should be consultations, perhaps a high-level conference, between the four powers involved in the multinational force, followed by a joint statement making it clear both to the Lebanese and to the citizens of their own countries what it is they are trying to do in Lebanon, and how they propose to do it. For as things stand, the public in all five countries is thoroughly bewildered.

One suggestion currently canvassed is that the multinational force should be withdrawn and replaced by a United Nations force, whose impartiality - it is said - would be generally respected. That shows a touching faith in the United Nations, often displayed by people who a year ago were rather contemptuous of it. Then, Israel and the United States were unwilling to entrust peacekeeping duties in Beirut to the UN, fearing that it would stabilize a situation which they hoped to modify. Now it is Syria and the Soviet Union which oppose UN involvement, believing that the tide of war has turned in their

favour and not wishing it to be checked.

A UN peacekeeping operation can function only when both sides are willing to stabilize the front. It works by stationing lightly armed units between opposing forces so that clashes between them cannot occur by accident or, if they do, can be brought quickly under control. Such units are neither equipped nor mandated to resist a deliberate offensive by either side. Thus it was quite unrealistic, for instance, to blame Unifil last year for failing to stop the Israeli invasion.

The multinational force, and particularly its American component, has undertaken a role going far beyond that, making its own firepower (especially that of the supporting ships offshore) a crucial element in the military balance. To withdraw it now would in itself radically modify the existing balance, making the present ceasefire lines almost certainly untenable by the Lebanese Army. Only if the forces opposed to the Lebanese Army were willing to accept the situation as it stands, including the existence of an independent Maronite power-base in Beirut, would a United Nations peacekeeping force be able to police the present ceasefire lines. It is fairly clear that that is not the case.

MUTUAL CONFIDENCE BUILDING

Today's meeting in Helsinki once again brings together representatives of the thirty-five states of East and West that signed that Helsinki Final Act in 1975. This time they are meeting at ambassadorial level to prepare for the chumsily named Conference on Confidence (sic) and Security-building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, the first stage of which is to open in Stockholm in January.

Like the Helsinki agreement, the original impulse came from the Soviet Union but was then transmuted by negotiation into a diplomatic gain for the West. The Soviet Union wanted a European disarmament conference on terms which would have detached it from the Helsinki agreement and made it little more than a platform for the more vacuous and declaratory of Soviet proposals. The West insisted throughout the long negotiations in Madrid, which reviewed the whole of the Helsinki Final Act, on an agenda restricting discussions to measures that would be militarily significant, politically binding, verifiable, and extended over the whole of Europe. It also insisted on tying the conference firmly into the Helsinki follow-up process, so that the Soviet Union could not float off the military aspects of European security and abandon its commitments to the rest of the Helsinki package, especially the parts on human rights and humanitarian measures.

As a result, there can be some

hope that the Stockholm conference will get down to serious discussions on extending the confidence-building measures originally agreed at Helsinki in 1975. These obliged each participating state to notify all the others not less than twenty-one days in advance of ground force manoeuvres involving more than 25,000 personnel within 250 kilometres of borders.

There was also provision for voluntary notification of smaller manoeuvres and military movements and for inviting observers to manoeuvres of any size.

Measures such as these are not to be confused with arms control or disarmament. They put no limits on weapons or manpower. Their aim is to increase "transparency" and thereby to increase confidence and reduce the risk of surprise attack. Obviously it would still be possible to launch an attack under cover of a manoeuvre which had been duly notified, but at least the other side would have been given the chance to prepare. The advantage may lie more in the other possibility - that a major manoeuvre, launched without warning would immediately set the alarm bells ringing.

Either way the results are bound to be modest at this stage, especially as Soviet observance has been limited to the letter of the agreement, while Western and neutral states have gone beyond it. Nato, for instance, has invited observers to nearly all major exercises, the Warsaw Pact to only about half, and even

at those there were complaints from Western observers about excessive restrictions and the issue of unusable binoculars. Western and neutral states have also notified manoeuvres below the threshold of 25,000 men, whereas, except for Hungary, the Warsaw Pact has not. And the Soviet Union is accused of having failed to supply agreed information about a major manoeuvre in 1981.

However, none of this invalidated the attempt to extend confidence-building measures. The Helsinki measures were a tentative beginning. Stockholm aims to extend the area covered and the obligations accepted by participants. For instance, the manpower threshold could be lowered, the period of notice extended and military movement of all kinds included. Beyond that there are many ideas for a second stage of the conference which might include constraints to inhibit surprise attack, such as banning all bridge-building equipment within 200 miles of a border.

Obviously none of these measures can prevent war. As Colonel Alford has pointed out in an IISS study, "the measures will work only if both sides want them to work and believe that the measures will enhance their own security". Nevertheless, with East-West relations in such a parlous state it is all the more important to sustain negotiations in areas where some elements of mutual interest survive.

and assess students' responses as neutrally as possible.

This is not easy to do and an ideological bias without as proposed by Terence Miller, whether conducted by H.M.s, principals, vice-chancellors, or Secretaries of State, will make it more difficult. Education is about helping people make up their own minds: most of my students seem to disagree with me, and good luck to them.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL HURST,
University of London Institute of Education,
20 Bedford Way, WC1,
October 14.

Greenham Common

From the Chairman of Newbury District Council

Sir, The media have given considerable publicity to the activities of the so-called Peace Women of Greenham Common since they set up their illegal encampment. Virtually without exception they have been portrayed as a heroic group bravely enduring many hardships in support of their declared cause.

On the other hand the district council has been cast in a less favourable light as a leading agent in the persecution of these supposedly defenceless women. Mrs Bazley, in her letter to you (October 19) obviously subscribes to this latter view in her allegations that "Newbury District Council has imposed a series of petty restrictions on these women and this is responsible for the conditions prevailing at the camp."

For the record, soon after the camp was set up attempts were made by the council's officers to persuade the women to find an alternative site on land not forming part of the common to avoid an inevitable confrontation.

Being shrewd, the ladies chose to defy the council, anticipating that this gesture would precipitate prosecutions and considerable attendant publicity. They must be satisfied at having achieved that purpose, but those who support the Peace Camp should be more objective and refrain from maligning

the council for acting in the democratic interests of the majority of its ratepayers.

The council has properly been concerned only to seek an end to an act of illegal trespassing in contravention of the by-laws that apply to commons in this district, making no distinction between the Peace Women, other itinerants and despoilers of public open spaces.

The women have freely chosen to live in such primitive conditions and people like Mrs Bazley should not seek to apportion blame elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
E. G. GOLBY, Chairman,
Newbury District Council,
Council Offices,
Market Street,
Newbury,
Berks.,
October 20.

'Sits vac' at FO

From Mr John Doyle
Sir, As a Jesuit-educated former Commercial Secretary, I should like to comment on Mr C. R. Head's letter (October 15).

Mr Head, I think, misconceives the Commercial Secretary's function. The Commercial Secretary seeks to help the jet-lagged businessman cope with "the realities of the commercial life" by reminding him of what he has said in the past. He is not to be seen at the airport at 2 o'clock in the morning when he has neglected to obtain an exit visa and/or income-tax clearance, warning him off unsuitable local firms, advising him not to quote his prices in sterling but in pounds, or producing his travel literature in the local language, advising on the market potential for his goods and the strength of the competition.

Commercial Secretaries do not sell goods: goods sell goods provided they are produced at the right quality at the price at the right place at the right time.

Yours faithfully,
J. DOYLE,
23 Carleton Avenue,
Wallingford,
Surrey,
October 15.

Cost no object in life-saving aim

From Professor J. Stewart Cameron

Sir, Your leader (October 19) takes me to task for drawing attention to the 2,000 people dying unnecessarily in the United Kingdom each year from renal failure, on the grounds that this action lacks "concern for orderly medical administration". Of the many points at issue you almost ignore the most important which is the twenty years of effort by the community of physicians caring for kidney patients to provide detailed statistics on success rates, rehabilitation and costs, an exercise which remains unique in medicine.

The administrative response to these data has been in every other developed nation a provision for renal failure which makes treatment available to all those who need and can benefit from it. Uniquely in the United Kingdom has this treatment been reserved for cost containment to a privileged few, leaving those such as "older" patients over 50 years of age and diabetics largely untreated.

Only after a decade of frustration, during which no expansion of services has taken place, has our anger finally exploded. Faced with the knowledge that (for example) Sicily has more centres than in the whole of England (576 dialysis places in 49 units) who could not do likewise?

You suggest that the "queue" for treatment for renal failure is little different in kind from that for a prostate operation or hip replacement. This can only have been written in ignorance of the fact that there is no "queue" for the treatment of terminal renal failure because, unlike those in discomfort with enlarged prostates or painful hips, by definition such patients die within days or weeks.

The amount of money involved is fortunately rather small, since renal failure is rare; some £30m to £50m per annum could transform the outlook for those at present dying. There are occasions in which exceptional action needs to be taken, and clearly this is one such. How is this money to be found?

It is well known that we spend a smaller proportion of our *per capita* gross national product on health than any other developed country and that the health service is already more cost-effective than any other system. Whilst some economies are possible, these are limited by the history and geography of the health service and aggravated by chronic lack of investment by successive governments.

Rather than containing or cutting costs, the solution is to seek to increase our expenditure on health by 1 per cent to 1.5 per cent of GNP to accommodate the rising expectations of our aging population.

Finally, the action I have suggested draw attention to this tragedy is not illegal, despite statements to the contrary. Indeed it is the duty of a doctor to draw the coroner's attention to any death in which the circumstances are doubtful and should only sign if he is satisfied. Can anyone feel satisfied with such deaths in such circumstances?

We must hope that the Secretary of State's response to the All-Party Disabling Group, when they meet to discuss this issue on November 1, will be a positive one. I am, Sir,
J. STEWART CAMERON,
Guy's Hospital Medical School,
Clinical Science Laboratories,
Guy's Tower,
Guy's Hospital,
London Bridge, SE1,
October 20.

Temple Bar

From Lady Sugden

Sir, Temple Bar (letter, October 15) has been living in peaceful retirement for over 100 years, in a distant corner of the grounds of the eccentric and happily frequented mansion known as Theobalds, near Enfield. It is possible these days to escape momentarily from embroilers, picture frames, claretists, orientiers (to name the merest handful of pursuits possible in that house) and wander down green forest rides to find in Temple Bar a gateway to any amount of delicious romantic nostalgia.

I see no good purpose in the notion of re-erecting it among the tower blocks of central London, where it would be just another monument, wrong in scale, and at a risk from traffic pollution. It should stay where it is.

Yours sincerely,
MARIAN SUGDEN,
Trinity Hall,
Cambridge,
October 17.

Nyerere's experiments

From Mr Oscar S. Kambona

Sir, Lord Hatch's search for positive results in the rule of President Nyerere of Tanzania and his suggestion (October 10) that he be emphasised must be questioned.

First of all, to look for something positive in the President's performance is to try to find the proverbial shining needle in a very dark haystack of negative results. In his search, Lord Hatch has seized on what he describes as "social miracles", first in alleged educational and literary expansion to 79 per cent of the population; second in an alleged increase of life expectancy from 40 years to 52 years by 1983.

How could literacy possibly have expanded to the remarkable figure of 79 per cent when the Government has banned the opening of new schools by voluntary agencies while completely failing to open new government schools or even to maintain the existing ones? How can literacy have expanded to anything like that level when the Government

Farmer and tenant system in decline

From Mr Henry Fell and others

Sir, The agricultural landlord and tenant system which has, for the past 150 years and more, been considered to be an essential element in efficient farm and estate management, is in a serious state of decline. The reasons, and there are many, are not hard to find, but they certainly include the results of much hasty and ill-conceived past legislation. The consequence is that no landowner can be sensibly advised to let a farm when it becomes vacant. He must either sell or retain possession and many estates, either private or institutional, are now farming in hand very large acreages indeed.

The effect on the countryside and the rural infrastructure of successive amalgamations and the subsequent disappearance of family farming is very serious, not just to agriculture but to the nation as a whole.

There is also now a rapid growth in farming arrangements - partnerships, contract or share farming - arrangements which are often short term and designed to circumvent the present unreasonable landlord/tenant legislation, rather than to provide for the land to be farmed in the most effective way.

We believe that unless confidence in the letting of farms can be restored, such arrangements will proliferate over the next decade and will have a further detrimental effect on the countryside and on the country as a whole. We therefore greatly welcome the Government's announcement that it will promote legislation in the present parliamentary session to "increase the number of farming tenancies".

Landowners and tenants alike have waited a long time for this opportunity to restore practical logic to agricultural holdings legislation. We cannot expect to have further parliamentary time for many years, so it is particularly important that the minister comes forward with the right formula. Next time will be too late.

Nuclear industry policy

From Mr J. I. Dearnley

Sir, If nuclear reactors are to be sold to countries presently without them, as Professor Fell suggests (October 11) we should hope that the obsolete British Magnox design will not be a contender. As Argentina has earlier discovered, this reactor type can be operated to produce military plutonium of high purity without the need to "shut down" and give the game away to IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) observers (always assuming that there might be any: the "safeguard" regime is voluntary).

Shortly stated, the combination of irresponsible nuclear salesmanship and national ambitions will ever undermine attempts to prevent proliferation and the proof is now all over the globe.

India, the host country for the World Energy Conference, sensibly pursues coal, hydropower and solar energy for its main energy needs: she has her own nuclear industry, which has given untold trouble and expense, as well as the 1974 bomb. No doubt she and other energy-hungry countries would welcome assistance from our non-nuclear power industries, if they are not driven into extinction.

Yours faithfully,
J. I. DEARNLEY,
Garden Cottage,
Smeetham Hall Lane,
Bulmer, Sudbury,
Suffolk,
October 12.

From Ms Renée Chudleigh and Mr William Cannell

Sir, Professor Ian Fell's (October 11) argued that the British Government

UK cheeses in France

From Mr Patrick Rance

Sir, Mr Tait's letter (October 15) deplored French ignorance about British cheese. This could apply to the world in general and much of the British Isles. For years I have been selling British cheese in increasing proportion alongside the best of foreign cheeses - to visitors from everywhere, and posting it all over the world.

Unfortunately, the policy of Britain's milk marketing boards has been to "meet the needs of the supermarket cutting machinery". They have regarded farms and dairies making cheese by traditional methods, and not in block, as a nuisance.

The result is that only two customers out of every 300 asking for cheddar in Britain (cheddar represents 70 per cent of home demand) can buy a cheese deserving the name and London cheese factors wanting hundreds of Dunlops for export have been told they could not have them, as they were made only for show.

In addition, the early independence Government consisted of a positive-minded and forward looking collective leadership which not only talked about development but was also able to guide the process constructively. The effect of Nyerere's authoritarianism has been negative, leading to destruction rather than to development. Of all the leaders of TANU (Tanganyikan African National Union) who participated in the independence process he alone remains in splendid isolation, with his "miracles only mirages."

Comments on the African scene often seem happy to support political systems which they themselves would not care to live under. The Tanzanian people would appreciate less sycophancy and more realistic and honest appraisals from their friends of the true conditions into which their country has deteriorated.

Yours faithfully,
OSCAR S. KAMBONA,
70 Perpetua House,
Tabard Street, SE1.

False economy on housekeeping

From Mr J. F. Q. Switzer

Sir, The Chairman of the Housing Working Party of the Royal Town Planning Institute has drawn attention (October 20) to the deteriorating housing stock of this country and says that "a major crisis is looming as the houses constructed in the building boom of the 1880s and 1890s reach their hundredth anniversary."

That is not the end of the matter, however, because the quality of building in the present century has progressively declined; successive generations of houses will have shorter lives and will all therefore tend to expire together - we have had a forecast of this with the demolition of local authority flats only 20 years old because of bad design and poor materials in the 1960s. On top of all this, recent financial cut-backs have increased the rate of deterioration.

The crisis is not limited to houses. This so-called *Educational Supplement* on September 30 carried a detailed report on the deterioration of school buildings and significantly made the point that routine maintenance of older buildings was being neglected because a disproportionate amount of the limited budget had to go on correcting original design faults in post-war schools, particularly leaking flat roofs. And in addition to buildings we have the problems of crumbling roads, leaking water mains and collapsing sewers.

It has often been said that there are no votes in sewers. Equally a study of the economics of sewers does not attract much academic glory. As a nation we have been able to adopt these attitudes because our Victorian and Edwardian forebears built a standard, both above and below the ground, that we have literally been able to live on capital. But when Mr Perry, the chairman of the RTPI working party, uses the words "a major crisis is looming" he does not exaggerate. If we pretend that he does, then the crisis will hit us that much sooner and that much harder.

In your first leader today (October 21) you say that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is keen to open up the debate on public spending. I hope that these major questions of how much we need to spend on maintaining and replacing the urban fabric will be included in that debate and that public authorities and the electorate will face up to the burden of accumulated neglect.

Yours faithfully,
J. F. Q. SWITZER,
Sidney Sussex College,
Cambridge,
October 21.

Gibraltar shipping

From the General Secretary of the National Union of Seamen

Sir, Much of what Gibraltar's Minister for Economic Development and Trade writes (October 13) about the colony's small but growing merchant shipping fleet may be true, but it is not the whole truth.

Ships are being transferred from the traditional maritime countries of northern Europe to Gibraltar for precisely the same reasons why shipowners register vessels in the new most notorious flag of convenience, the state of Liberia and Panama. They do it to escape the fiscal regimes and social security obligations of the country of ownership and often also to avoid employing nationals of that country.

Another advantage for shipowners is that a flag of convenience country might, on paper, have adequate laws covering safety, but in practice such legislation is barely enforced because there is no proper shore-based marine administration to do so. Our information suggests that, regrettably, this is true of Gibraltar.

An additional concern for the National Union of Seamen is that the Gibraltar registered fleet not only comprises predominantly small vessels (over half are under 500 tons and therefore statistically most at risk of casualty) but most of them are over 15 years old, the age at which ships are regarded as due for replacement.

By contrast, only a quarter of UK registered ships were built more than 15 years ago. It is small wonder therefore that we have thought twice before agreeing to man the Gibraltar fleet.

Yours faithfully,
JIM SLATER, General Secretary,
National Union of Seamen,
Maritime House,
Old Town,
Chapman, SW4,
October 14.

'The peacekeeper'

From Sir Peter Blaker, MP for Blackpool South (Conservative)

Sir, In his eagerness to berate Iain Kirkpatrick, Sir John Whitmore (October 21) has himself fallen victim to the perverse use of language he so deplores.

The MX missile is not called "the peacekeeper" - that was the name given to the Colt .45 in the 1880s - but "the peacekeeper". As he will recognise, the different meanings (and the weapons) are worlds apart. I fear it is on such misunderstandings that much of the present nuclear debate is founded.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BLAKER,
(Vice-Chairman, Peace Through Nato),
30 St James's Square, SW1,
October 21.

This above all

From Mr J. Haworth

Sir, The choir library register of Holy Trinity, Sloane Street, had an entry: "God is gone up" - top shelf, right.

Yours truly,
J. HAWORTH,
2 Grosvenor Road,
Chiswick, W4,
October 18.

SPECTRUM

Poet, novelist, critic, journalist, broadcaster - Philip Oakes was not, however, born to sing the blues. His only attempt ended in failure, with the consolation that his successor in Mick Mulligan's Magnolia Jazz Band was one George Melly. In the second of three extracts from the forthcoming final volume of his autobiographical trilogy, he describes the passions, the pathos and the personalities of the London jazz scene as he knew and savoured it in 1951.

The good time gang

I lay on the floor of the bedroom in Chelsea and listened to George Melly snoring. It was six in the morning and no one else was awake. George had the best bed because it was George's room. Two other bodies were clasped together on the cot next to it.

The rest of us, curled on mattresses and huddled beneath overcoats, were there because it had been late when we left the London Jazz Club (the band had played a dozen choruses of "Get Out of Here" before the basement emptied) and later still when we staggered from the cafe opposite the Windmill Theatre. The last tube had long gone and there was a grille-like porcellous barrier the entrance to Piccadilly Underground.

Earlier that year George had arrived from Liverpool wearing a tight blue suit, his face blotched with gentian violet. He had impetigo, he explained, but he thought the colour of the ointment quite flattering. He also suffered from a barber's rash which glowed hotly above the collar of his shirt. His hair had been cropped at the back so that a plume of oily bristles stood up from the crown of his head and his lips were wet, red and negroid.

George was an anarchist and a surrealist. He was also, he let it be known, a homosexual although he showed more than a passing interest in women. He had a job as the assistant curator of an art gallery where he gave readings from the works of Kurt Schwitters, ending each poem with the prescribed smashing of wine glasses.

On two or three evenings a week he sang with Mick Mulligan's Magnolia Jazz Band, shouting traditional blues into a biscuit tin (perfect, he said, for amplification) and spent much of his free time listening to the records of Bessie Smith, whose angry bellow we all fervently admired. It was not only that she was Empress of the Blues. She was also black, and consequently oppressed, which made her the perfect icon for our group.

We longed for revolution, although what form it should take we did not

know. The London Jazz Club had an anarchist bookstall where the best-selling pamphlet was Henry Miller's *Murder the Murderer*. I still owned the Olympia Press edition of *Tropic of Cancer*, the first dirty book I had encountered which could pass as literature. And we suffered Miller's polemics in the hope that somehow sex had been smuggled into his sermon.

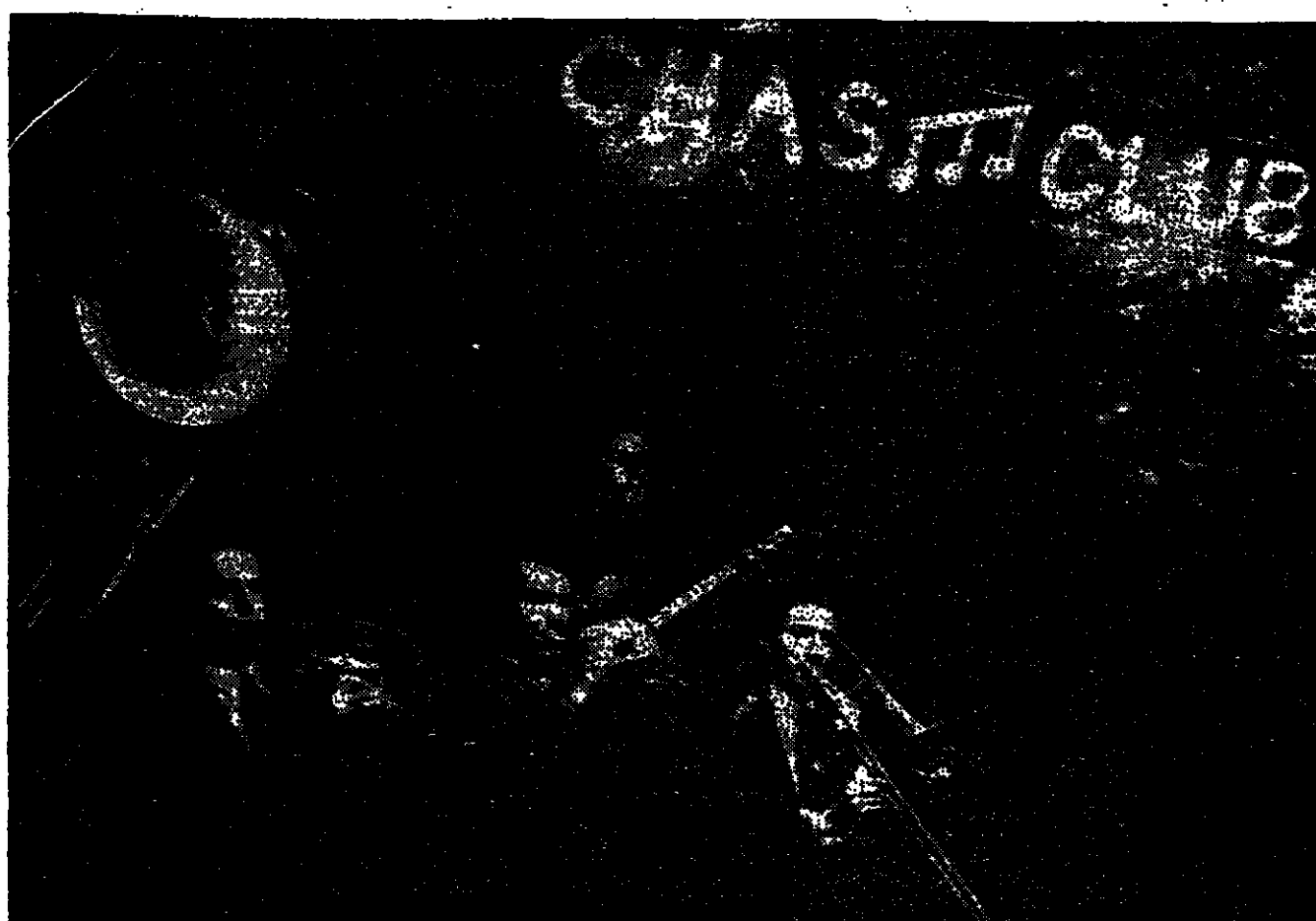
We were disappointed. There was better value, said George, in *The Lay of Mollinor*, a prose poem by the Comte de Lautréamont. But although we listened respectfully while he recited his favourite passages, it was hard to share his enthusiasm.

It was easier to respond to the pictures he praised. They were not only great art, he told us, but good investments. Few of us had the money to act on his advice. But he persuaded Mick Mulligan, richer than most of us in his capacity as the director of a wine and spirits firm, to buy a Max Ernst portfolio.

It was not entirely what Mick had expected. To him "art" was a word with sexual connotations. It meant horny painters, willing models and a generally licentious view of the world. Judged by these standards, Max Ernst did not come up to scratch. "Thanks very much, cock", he said as George showed him the plates which made up *Histoire Naturelle*, "but there's not much tit, is there?"

George's own collection was more comprehensive. When his grandmother died, leaving him several thousand pounds, he spent the lot on pictures. He too acquired a Max Ernst folio, but in his Chelsea digs pride of place was given to two paintings by René Magritte. They hung on the wall facing his bed and, lying among the jumble of bodies that morning in the pale light I felt, not for the first time, that I was inside an envelope, air-mailed from some exotic land and the pictures surrounding me were the stamps.

Because I lived with Bob I travelled with him in Mulligan's car. It meant free transport, but it was an uneasy arrangement. Strictly speaking only girls and musicians were entitled to seats in the car and I constantly felt obliged to do something which would justify my taking up the space. Heading for Perivale one evening Mick wondered aloud whether the band



Top: The Mick Mulligan Band at Chas Club, south London, in the early 1950s. Left to right, Owen Maddox, tuba; Wally Fawkes, clarinet; Mick Mulligan, trumpet; John Lavender, banjo; Harry Brown, trombone - plus an unknown drummer. Above left: Oakes, a 1950s flashback and right, the young George Melly

should take on a singer and I rose to the bait.

"How about me?" I said. Bob looked appalled and Mulligan glanced over his shoulder. "Didn't know you could sing, cock."

"I've done a bit", I said. For slightly less than six months I had been a solo treble in the school choir and subsequently I had sung in one or two army camp shows.

"You can try a couple of songs tonight", said Mick. My nerve held out until the band was halfway through its first set.

Mick beckoned me on to the bandstand. "All right, cock?" he asked. "All right."

We were on a higher level than I had imagined. The upturned faces on the

dance floor were like mirrors - reflecting not images but light. Without meaning to I began to count them until I heard Mick stamp his foot three times and the band led into the sweet, sauntering blues whose words, I suddenly realized, had gone from my mind.

They returned just as unexpectedly and leaning back with my eyes closed - an affectation which excused me from looking at my audience - I sang about

lost love in another time and place. Opening my eyes for the final chorus I saw that a small circle of girls had gathered at my feet. They swayed in time to the music, dancing on the spot and jiggling gently beneath their loose sweaters.

Were they fans? I wondered. Would they want to touch me? Would I be able to take my pick of the bunch as Mulligan did? The song ended. They clapped perfunctorily and later on when I sang "Bill Bailey" Mick tore straight into the next number without allowing time for any applause.

My feelings were ruffled if not exactly hurt, but I said nothing until we were driving home, when I asked Mick how he thought I had done. "Not bad, cock", he said. "But it's not really your sort of thing."

"Why not?" "Well, it's not the Hammersmith Palace, is it?"

"I don't know what you mean." Mick spotted the blue light of a police car ahead and reduced his speed. "Style", he said. "The voice is all right. But it's not authentic."

I understood what he meant when George Melly turned up for a band rehearsal the following week. In the suburban litter of Mulligan's sitting room he recreated the New Orleans of 40 years before. Strutting on the Axminster, cigarette fuming between his fingers, he became the pimp, the gambler, the sporting-house man. I studied his gentian-smudged face and the tight arse - his trousers and wondered how a son of Liverpool, educated at Stowe, could sound so black.

"It's simply how you feel", he said.

"Really?" I asked. I learnt later that George listened to Bessie Smith records as intently as I listened to Sinatra, mimicking each breath, each angry growl. But he reproduced more than the sound. Each song became a dramatic recitation, a mime, a piece of theatre which he refined or embellished as he went along.

One night the Magnolias were playing at a club in Cranley, the stronghold of a group of traditionalists who believed that only music made before electrical recordings was the genuine article.

When George came on to sing the Cranley crowd began a slow handclap. The Mulligan supporters sauntered across the floor trying to look menacing, and I wondered if I was going to be called on to demonstrate my loyalty. I hoped not. Jazz enthusiasts were, by nature, both liberal and lenient and I had only occasionally seen blood flow. But the Cranley barracking went on and on and although George seemed unworried I could see that Mick's patience was wearing thin.

The leader of the Cranley pack advanced to the stage and clapped his hands under the bell of Mick's trumpet.

I half rose from my seat, but Jenny pulled me back. George stepped in front of the microphone and, stooping forward like a child presenting a bouquet, planted a kiss on the Cranley leader's forehead.

Abridged from *At the Jazz Band Ball: A Memory of the 1950s* by Philip Oakes, published on November 17 by André Deutsch, price £8.95. The earlier volumes of the Oakes trilogy were *From Middle England and Dwellers All in Time and Space*, are republished by Penguin in a single volume on the same date, price £3.95.

moreover... Miles Kington

The blues is feeling off colour

New Orleans

New Orleans may be the birthplace of jazz, but there are other, younger, kinds of music to which it has given birth. There is a kind of rhythm 'n' blues which came out of this city in the 1950s and 1960s, lighter and more piano dominated than

northern varieties, that commands as devoted adherents as New Orleans jazz ever did. The most famous practitioner is Fats Domino, but there are others, less worldwide, local stars such as the late Professor Longhair and a current hero, pianist James Booker, who managed to be spectacularly ill during a recent concert without losing any sound. When you tell the cognoscenti that you are off to New Orleans, it isn't the jazz they tell you to keep an eye on, it's the rhythm 'n' blues scene.

All, however, is not well. Fats Domino is virtually an exile from his own city. He touches base about once a year for a reunion concert with the faithful and spends the rest of the time more profitably on the road. And audiences at club performances by lesser men are not what they should or ever used to be; club owners now complain that there are very few groups who can fill a place even at weekends and that they have to hire two or even three groups on one evening to guarantee a sellout.

Two of the city's most popular nightspots closed recently with financial problems; they put the blame in varying proportions on cable TV, lack of exposure on unadventurous local radio, new rock discos, the tendency of bands to price themselves out of the market and even on crime in the streets.

One of the top remaining spots is a bar called Tipitina's, a sweaty echoing kind of place with minimal decor, a kind of rock and roll version of the 100 Club in Oxford Street, and when I went there to see the Radiators, a very good local rock and roll band, the audience certainly didn't seem big enough to cover any kind of outlay and the band played correspondingly loud to fill the empty spaces. Only one or two bands, like the locally famous Neville Brothers, can be relied upon to get the place really full and steaming.

The biggest crowd I saw for any musical event here was a full turnout in the huge Saenger Theatre for a blues evening featuring Bobby Bland, B. B. King and Millie Jackson. Among the several thousand people I saw only about a dozen white faces; this was the black community turning out to greet its heroes, yet it seemed to be a case of

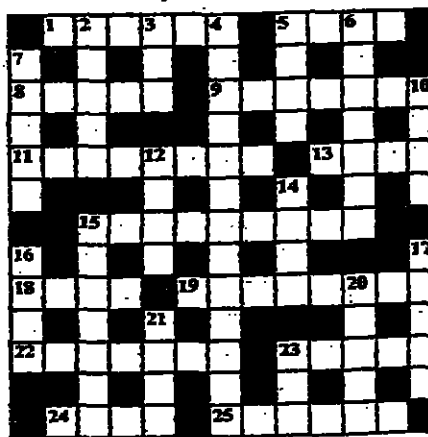
celebrating past achievements more than anything new. B. B. King played and sang well enough, but both he and Bland, whose name is extremely apt, looked like two middle-aged spreading gentlemen going through their past hits. There was much more clapping at the start of numbers than at the end. Millie Jackson, much younger, seemed intent mainly on proving that a woman can talk as dirty as a man, which seemed to go down well with most present except my neighbour, who shouted unavailingly: "Wash your mouth out, girl!"

The only local radio station which can be relied upon to present a full range of adventurous music is WWOZ, which the other night claimed to have heard an excellent evening of Ethiopian reggae at Tipitina's. A pity there were so few people there, it said. And it may be that there are just too many kinds of music in this still very musical town to win all the audiences needed for survival. There is every kind of jazz, blues, rock and roll, country music and reggae, which is known better in New Orleans than most parts of the USA.

One kind of music that seems on the increase is Cajun. This simple but attractive music, sung in French patois and dominated by violins and accordions, is creeping into the cities from the bayous, and sounds far better in the flesh than its repetitive image on record might suggest. Clifton Henier, a black star of the music, filled Tipitina's last Saturday. On Thursday I heard Bourre, a group named after a favourite Cajun card game, and the Maple Leaf, where they created a wonderful evening of howling and dancing.

The impressive thing was that the band, apart from one grizzled fiddler, was very young, and that the equally young crowd were dancing correct steps - a kind of five mixed with country two-step. Musically it can hardly be called a step forward, but it is hard not to be carried away by the stomping country rhythm and the lifting waltzes, not to mention the refreshing lack of decibels. The other day I even heard a Cajun version of "When the Saints Come Marching In". It was the first time in 20 years I had found myself enjoying this hammy old tune.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 184)



- ACROSS: 1 Greek headband (6) 5 Mouth frame (4) 8 Scrapper (5) 9 Light saddle horse (5,3,3) 11 Base (6) 13 Largest feline (4) 15 Tracker's rights (6) 16 Considerate (4) 18 Sudden growth spurts (7) 22 Prairie (7) 23 Amphibious (5) 24 Flood embankment (4) 25 Revolve (6)
- DOWN: 2 Joint with foot (5) 3 Railman's union (1,1,1) 4 Perfect condition (5,3,3) 5 Sudden jar (4) 6 Anxious person (7) 7 Fill in excess (5) 8 Sharp tug (4) 12 Large towns (4) 14 18th Cent style (4) 15 Post mortem (7) 16 Nihilistic art (4) 17 Grunt teeth (5) 20 Should (5) 21 Vanish slowly (4) 23 Very want (5)

SOLUTION TO No 183
ACROSS: 1 Fin de siècle 9 Arsenal 10 Eatin' 11 End 13 Reed 16 Zinc 17 Evolve 18 Nix 20 Dyak 21 March 22 Auld 23 Elbe 25 Med 26 Noble 29 Rockin' 30 Reckless
DOWN: 2 Issue 3 Dent 4 Sole 5 Eyed 6 Lustily 7 Patron saint 8 Knickknacks 12 Novice 14 Def 15 Dotage 19 Priebse 20 Dee 24 Lunge 25 Mese 26 Drug 27 Dole

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In search of a 'techno-hero'

By Kenneth Owen

"Machines that think are good business," says Edward Feigenbaum, Professor of Computer Science at Stanford University in California's Silicon Valley. "And they're going to be big business in the late 20th Century and the early 21st Century."

As head of Stanford's Heuristic Programming Project, Ed Feigenbaum has built up what is arguably the world's Number One team in the branch of artificial intelligence (AI) known as expert systems - computer programs containing knowledge and reasoning abilities which enable computers to explore selected problems in a human-like way.

The Japanese have realised the significance of such systems in their ambitious ten-year programme to develop so-called "fifth-generation" computer systems. But the United States as a nation has not, he argues, and the British Government's Alvey programme of advanced information technology (a direct response to the Japanese plan) faces major problems.

Professor Feigenbaum praises the innovative contribution that British scientists have made to artificial intelligence. But, he says, the British have an alarming propensity to "shoot themselves in the foot". The most crippling example of this was the damning report on AI made to the Science Research Council by Sir James Lighthill in 1973.

Now Ed Feigenbaum finds, to his amazement, that the spirit of Lighthill is still alive in Britain. Artificial intelligence is still not accepted as a respectable subject by influential members of the academic and industrial establishment.

The second problem facing Britain in attempting to implement the Alvey proposals for research in artificial intelligence (or "intelligent knowledge-based systems", the Alvey euphemism) is that of a "severe shortage of talent, and that talent is spread among many small groups."

Britain would be wise to concentrate its AI resources in a single centre, Feigenbaum argues. This concentrated effort should be led by a young and charismatic "technology hero".

Thus the UK programme, as seen from Stanford, needs a fresh approach, a concentration of resources, an heroic leader - and preferably a pair of bulletproof shoes to prevent the British shooting themselves in the foot again. Pressure to abandon longer-term research in favour of solving short-term

product problems is a danger that is already evident. Feigenbaum's heuristic programming team at Stanford have two key achievements to their credit. First, they demonstrated convincingly that artificial intelligence was useful through an impressive series of practical knowledge-based systems that worked, the team won credibility for the subject.

Second, they achieved a radical change of direction in AI research away from attempts to devise completely general systems in favour of highly specialised, knowledge-intensive ones. Feigenbaum's people were intellectual pioneers when they signalled that direction in the mid-1960s; a decade later, their ideas had become accepted wisdom.

Ed Feigenbaum's science has the essence of engineering. "We really wanted to make smart



Ed Feigenbaum - advice to the British

machines", he enthuses. "We eschewed fancy problem-solving methods."

"We thought of problem areas as hard walls against which to throw our ideas. So we chose very hard problems, because you have to see how the ideas break; you can't throw ideas against a pillow. We sought complexity, not simplicity, so that the faults in our ideas could be identified."

His message is clear. The effort to build intelligent, knowledge-based systems is the most difficult endeavour ever undertaken by computer science and engineering. The Japanese plan reflects a vision that is achievable, clearly articulated, and based on strong economic motivation.

That is in sharp contrast to the British plan, which is sketchy and will unfold gradually, and to the American plan, which is non-existent. The United States has no clearly articulated national vision, no "State of the Union" address for information technology.

Rex Malik on the Fifth Generation - Page 18

Push-button introduction to the electronic university

The first silicon-chip college

THE WEEK

Clive Cookson

American college level (though not the standard of Britain's more specialised university courses).

This aspect of TeleLearning is no different from the educational software sold by scores of publishers on both sides of the Atlantic.

The communications technology, however, is new to the world of education. TeleLearning claims to have simplified the procedure so much that students need only push one button on their keyboard to be connected via the telephone system to the personal computer of their (human) instructor, anywhere in the country.

The Electronic University package, consisting of communications software and hardware (the modem), costs between \$130 and \$230, depending on the student's home computer. It stores all the protocols (user code, terminal identification and so on) that are normally required to log into a long-distance network. Courses run from \$30 to \$100 each, depending on length and the instructor's credentials.

Student and instructor can either communicate directly at specified times or use TeleLearning's "electronic mailbox" facility to leave work or

messages at the other's computer.

Ron Gordon, former chief executive of Atari, the computer games company, has been developing the Electronic University for the past two years. He has great ambitions for international expansion.

Within three years the TeleLearning Network will be used to educate more people than any other private educational institution in the world.

established colleges and universities.

As well as offering its own programmes through department stores and computer shops, TeleLearning will license the system to colleges, corporations and others wishing to teach their own courses with their own instructors to their own students or employees.

The final words of praise for TeleLearning came from James Coyne, who heads the Appropriately Named Office of Private Sector Initiatives in the White House. "Never before has technology offered such promise to broaden the ability of society to provide effective, low cost, industrialised instruction to those who want to explore the horizons of knowledge," he said.

Roger Woolnough looks at the impact of video games on teaching

The friendly side of the Cookie Monster

It sounds like a sketch from Monty Python. A psychologist stands up and delivers a paper on "Donkey Kong, Pac Man and the Meaning of Life".

Solemn rows of scientists, doctors and educationalists listen with interest, and then consider such topics as the effects of video games on the parent-child relationship, and the educational potential of "Alienator Mix" and "Juggles Rainbow".

After three days, fortified with a parting wine-and-cheese party, they all return to places like Berkeley, Palo Alto, Oakland, and Portola Valley.

It could only happen in America, but happen it did: at Harvard, no less earlier this year. The conference was called "Video games and human development", and the contribution of Robert Kegan, who gave the keynote address on Donkey Kong, was typical of the rest. He assessed the impact of video games on the human psyche.

But behind what some may consider academic absurdities, there lies a serious concern with the effect of the games on society, family life, crime, education, and much else. Seldom can a subject which looks so frivolous on the surface have been subjected to such an onslaught of sheer brainpower, as happened at Harvard.

Well to the fore was Dr Robert Oltion, a psychologist who is now manager of behavioural research at Atari Inc in California. In London a few weeks after

the Harvard conference, Oltion enthused about the potential of the medium.

Atari, he said, has jointly developed with Sesame Street a series of games for children in the years before school. "It teaches reading skills, numbers, simple concepts like left and right, up and down," Oltion explained. "They are non-violent, worthwhile, and fun - the Sesame Street philosophy."

After that it comes as a bit of a setback to learn that one game is called "Cookie Monster Munch", and that it involves the infant in trying to get cookies into the cookie-jar before they are munching by the Cookie Monster.

Atari admits that the game would have to be extensively revised before it could be marketed here, but Oltion is convinced that the principles involved are right.

The teaching programme is held in a single cartridge with a rising scale of difficulty (in one case, a maze has to be followed, but the outline of the maze can be made to disappear from the screen). This step-by-step approach means the games would be used by children over a period of two or three years. They are all designed to be played with a parent or older child.

Several new educational games were discussed at the Harvard conference. "Rocky's Boots" allows children to build electronic circuits on the TV screen. "Soundtrack Trolley" teaches the elements of music, and allows children to vary the

sound to create different harmonies.

Everyone at the conference seemed agreed that educational video games have a big future. "There's a very rich tutorial interaction between machine and learner," said Professor David Perkins of Harvard Graduate School of Education. "It all takes care of itself, because the kids want to learn..." This is educational heaven. It's certainly different from Hall & Knight's Algebra.

Where some people may part from the conclusions of the Harvard conference is in the areas of crime and family life. Have these eminent researchers really got it right?

Dr David Brooks, a specialist in juvenile crime, was so concerned about whether a games arcade was a safe place for a child that he carried out two years of research, interview-

ing and watching 900 children and talking to 973 youths.

He concluded that typical arcade games are a fairly stable, and even above-average, group of teenagers. "Are video games addictive?" Brooks asked. "By and large... 51 per cent play the games less than half the time they are in the arcades." (What are they doing for the rest of the time?)

Professor Edna Mitchell, of Mills College, has studied the effect of the video game on the family circle. It turns out that it is responsible for reviving that old American imperative, "When I began the study," Professor Mitchell said, "I thought these children would be playing video games five or six hours a day, and the parents wouldn't be able to pry them away and there'd be a tremen-

dous amount of family conflict. Instead, the families reported a new kind of interaction, some of which had not occurred for years and years, since they'd stopped playing Monopoly together."

If some difficulty in equating video games with happy families, the benefits of the games in another context seem unquestionable. Dr William Lynch, director of the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit in a California hospital, described how the unit has been using video games, and eventually computers, to help patients recover their skills.

Robert Oltion of Atari believes that one day people may use a computer to extend their mental abilities, just as they now use power tools to extend their physical abilities. That is, if the Cookie Monster doesn't get them first.

People/Bill Butt of Digital Microsystems Cyclist on the right road

When he was in his early twenties, Bill Butt applied for a job as an administrative assistant. He had never heard of the company, but it happened to be IBM. It was a chance beginning to a career in computing which has involved Butt with several other American computer companies, and has led to his present involvement with local area networks.

"I was gathered into the fold of IBM," Butt recalls of his early experience, "and spent seven years with the company. At first I was selling punched cards and magnetic tapes. Then I was trained to sell a full data-processing system."

In fact he left soon after his training was complete, and began a kind of Cooke's Tour of the industry, with stop-overs at Telex Computer Products, Varian Data Machines, Wang, and Harris Systems.

It was while he was with Wang, where he became national sales manager for word-processing and computing, that Bill Butt first realised the possibilities of local area networks (LANs). When he was approached to become managing director of Digital Microsystems, which specialises in LANs, he jumped at the chance.

"I haven't enjoyed myself so much for a very long time," he says. "After all those American



companies it's a delight to work for a British firm. One feels one is contributing."

British it may be but the Americans are still strong. Digital Microsystems was set up in September last year by Exel Group, which owns 75% of it. The remainder is owned by Digital Microsystems Inc, based in Oakland, California, but Exel owns 60% of that too. A large part of Butt's brief is to mastermind transferring the technology from California to Europe, a process which is proceeding at a rapid rate.

The American company was formed by Professor John Torode and his wife in 1975, and a few years later started to exploit Torode's design for a LAN called HINet, which links together several microcomputers. Exel started distributing the company's products in Britain, and then bought the controlling interest.

"We've been going from strength to strength," Butt enthuses. There are more than 500 HINet LANs installed in this country, with British Telecom a major user.

Earlier this year Digital Microsystems moved to new premises in Wokingham, and has started its own design and manufacture for the UK market.

"We hope to encourage some joint developments," Butt comments, although clearly John Torode's contribution remains significant, and basic work is being carried out in the States.

For relaxation, Bill Butt indulges in the low-tech pastime of cycling, which he recently took up to keep fit. "I had not done it since I was about 18," he says. "I had to learn how to turn left and right again."

But there should be no such problems with Digital Microsystems, where the road seems to stretch straight ahead. RW

A chance to put talent on show

The exhibition and conference season is well and truly upon the UK computer industry, providing the annual opportunity to look for a job.

The primary reason for the exhibitions, the biggest of which is Compec in November, is to show and view new equipment. Just below the surface, however, exhibitions and conferences provide a unique opportunity for staff, especially marketing staff, to find a new employer.

For most of the year, marketing staff have their noses to the ground, fighting their competitors for essential market share, quotes and commissions.

Occasionally they are let off the hook and sent to stand around on exhibition stands looking neat and tidy, ready with a winning smile for the interested visitor. While this job is generally boring and tedious with great reluctance by the marketing staff, for some of them it proves to be the ideal opportunity to view the products and prospects of the opposition.

Under the cover of checking out the competitor's stands they can make contact with their prospective employer, have a quick interview and arrange for further more secretive meetings. This use of exhibitions and conferences has reached such a fine art in the US that exhibition organisers put up job boards for prospective employers to advertise on.

JOB SCENE

Richard Sharpe

Most marketing staff publicly avert their eyes when passing these boards, just in case their manager is around. But in a quiet moment most of them will at least give the adverts and business cards pinned up a glance to see if they can take the plunge and move on.

Sometimes this whole operation is just a bluff, a calculated strategy to get an offer with which to extract a better position or more money from the existing employer. Sometimes it is a genuine move that evokes a response from one's employer.

In a recent case a marketing manager was nearly lured away from a major company in the UK by another company that was so sure they had secured his services that they put out a press release. He decided to stay on and there was confusion all round.

Marketing managers attuned to the use of exhibitions by their employees, who probably owe their own jobs to just such tactics, guard against the use of stand service by a variety of stratagems.

One tactic is to select closely those that will be on the stand and keep the rest out on the road. Another is to get the staff on the stand and make them use part of their time following calls and doing other administration just to keep them busy.

A third is to ensure that their biggest customer is invited to the exhibition so that they have to play host and realise just how much commission is at stake if their move does not prove successful.

voice, input/output workstations
cases
telephone terminals
ASCII VDUs
colour VDUs
graphics VDUs
viewdata terminals
voice, input/output workstations
cases
integrated circuits
keyboards
memory
passive devices
peripheral controllers
printer mechanisms
recording heads
access, security & safety
card punches
environmental control
furniture
magnetic media
microfiche
microfilm
physical storage
power supplies
stationery
test equipment
point-of-sale
controllers
gateways
encryption
interfaces
local networks
message switches
modems
acoustic couplers
multiplexers
network management
PBXs
protocol, code & speed converters
telexes
test equipment
viewdata
teletext
voice and wideband
wide-area networks
calculators
local processing terminals
mainframe computers
microcomputers
multi-user microcomputers
16-bit microcomputers
32-bit microcomputers
word processors

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daisy wheel printers
line printers
impact matrix printers
ink jet printers
tape transports
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word processors

BRITAIN'S PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER SHOW

And no doubt you will be at Compec too. At Olympia, From November 15 to 18 1983.

Another year's gone by since the last Compec. Another year of progress, success, achievement and excellence.

And another year of problems, failures, hassles and disappointments.

That's why every computer professional and serious user needs to know what's on show at Compec.

There's no other exhibition with the quality, scope, size and sheer volume of information that's at Compec. There's no other show that repays so well the time you spend.

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You'll know what's going on behind the scenes - and in front of them - to benefit your present and future operation.

Compec tickets cost just £1.50 in advance - that's half price - or £3.00 on the day. Clip the coupon and make sure you update yourself on the ever-changing world of DP.

Because there's no doubt, whatever your interest, whatever your need, it's at Compec 83, Britain's number one computer show.

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10 years to go to the new office

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Today's multiprocessor equivalent of Perkin-Elmer's high-end 3/32 machine of 1974 can deliver 42 times the performance for the same cost. And stand by for "transparent multiprocessing" - slide-in units that will increase computer power and memory without major capital investments.

Well-heeled can now indulge in an "intelligent" telephone, STC Telecommunications has launched the Executive, a telephone set with a screen and keyboard, powered by a microcomputer. Among other things, it has a memory bank that can keep the executive's diary and address book up to date, and it can sound an alarm when it is time for a meeting or - more important - lunch.

Executive also gives access to Prestel and other viewdata services, and it can send or receive electronic mail and telexes via Telecom Gold. A single Executive will cost about £2,000, or around £2,000 for an executive/secretarial combination, but STC thinks the market for intelligent display telephones could reach 47,000 units by 1986.

Early models of a new family of hard disc drives are expected in the UK early next year. Developed in the USA by Microcomputer Memories, they offer unprecedented

capacities of 6.35 and 12.7 Megabytes and in the new 3.5-inch package their compact size is almost in relation to a human hand (right).

UK Events

Lancaster & Morecambe Computer Club, Open Day, Lower Town Hall, Lancaster, October 29

Computeration UK, Naislee Library, Avon, October 31-November 18

Software Expo, Wembley Conference Centre, London, November 9-13

Home Computer Exhibition, Dublin, November 9-13

ROMETECH - Personal - Computers & Leisure Technology Exhibition, Bristol Exhibition Centre, November 11-13

Malvern Micro Fair, Malvern Winter Gardens, Worcester, November 12

Manchester Apple Village, Belle Vue, Manchester, November 13-16

Classroom computer competition

There seemed to be a lot of confusion among the entries in the fourth of our 12 weekly Classroom Computer competitions for young people up to 18 years old.

Most entries confused the words microprocessor and microcomputer. The world's most common type of microcomputer is based around an 8-bit processor. The world's most common microprocessor is 4-bit. This accounts for more than 50 per cent of all processors used. It is found in washing machines, television, cars etc., and far outnumbers the 8-bit processor used mainly for data/information processing. The 16-bit processor accounts for only a small percentage of use.

As far as a new name for a 16-bit word was concerned, chomp and gobble were the most common - chomp was liked by the judges, gobble not so much.

Munch and mouthful were also popular. It was in the second choice of word that the judges looked for originality.

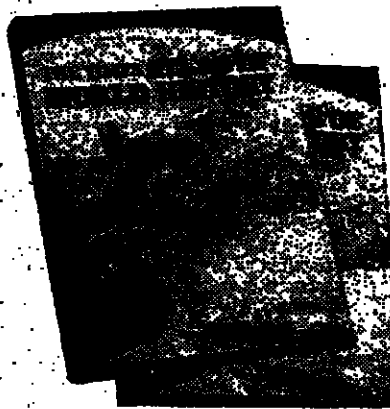
Today we offer the seventh competition. There are two age groups - up to 15 and 15 to 18 inclusive. Entries will be individual efforts but because we are keen that schools should become involved, the main prize - two Atari 600XL computers a week, one for each group - will be presented to the school of the winner's choice. In addition, 10 copies of The Times Atlas of World History, five in each age group, will be awarded each week to individual entrants, including the overall winners of the school computers.

The competition is simple to enter. Cut out the entry form today and, every Tuesday for the next 11 weeks and collect each week the entry tokens from the back page of The Times (you will find it at the foot of the following publication days - Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday - and stick them on the form. Those who entered last week should be sure that entries are posted to arrive by first post Friday.

Today and in every week of the competition there will be five questions on computers to answer with a different theme each week. These will not require the use of a computer but may require a certain amount of research. All the answers are to be found in works of reference readily available to young people. There is a tie-breaking question to answer which will test the ingenuity and imagination of contestants and enable the panel of judges to decide the winners. Every week is a new contest so missing one week will not spoil your chances.

Enjoy yourselves and good luck!

The Prizes



● The ATARI 600XL computer has a 16k RAM memory, expandable to 64k with a memory module. 24k ROM and software compatibility with other ATARI home computers.

● The Times Atlas of World History has 360 pages containing 600 new maps and 300,000 words of narrative presenting history in the context of the places where it happened.

Judging

1. The prizes will be divided and awarded equally between the two age groups - up to 15 years and 15-18 years as at date of entry.
2. Those entries with all factual questions answered correctly will be judged first. The entry which in the opinion of the judges gives the most apt and imaginative answer to the tie-breaking question will win a Computer for the School or College nominated, and a personal prize of an Atlas.
3. Other entries with all-correct answers and judged to have submitted the next 8 best answers to the tie-breaker will win a personal prize of an Atlas.
4. Those entries with less than all-correct answers will be judged in order, in the event that not enough all-correct entries qualify.
5. If identical entries are judged to have won, the entrants may be asked to submit to a further similar competition.

Rules

1. All entries must be made via the official entry form as printed in The Times. No photocopies will be accepted. Several entries from the same school may be posted together.
2. Each individual entry must be accompanied by the required

number of computer symbols as printed in The Times relevant to that week's competition.

3. All entries must be made clearly in ink. Incomplete, illegible, spilt or late entries will be rejected as will those without a nomination.

4. You must be under 19 years of age and be a full-time student of the school or college nominated at the time of entry.

5. Names of all winners will be published in The Times not later than 2 weeks after closing date. All entries become the sole property and copyright of The Times. Prizes will be despatched to the School.

6. No individual may win more than once in any one weekly competition.

7. Proof of posting is not acceptable as proof of entry.

8. The decision of the panel of judges appointed by the Editor is final on all matters connected with the competition. No correspondence at any stage of the competition will be entered into.

9. Employees and their families of Times Newspapers Ltd, its associated companies or anyone connected with the operation of this competition are not eligible.

10. All entrants will be deemed to have agreed to abide by the rules of which all instructions form part.

Results of the fourth competition

Stuart and Anthony are this week's winners

Two boys, age 10 and 16, are the winners of The Times Classroom Computer fourth competition. They are Stuart McDonald of St. Bernadette's School, Harrow, Middlesex, and Anthony Cole, of Downend School, Downend, Bristol. The winning decision was made by a tie-breaking question.

The answers to the fourth competition were 1) A; 2) B; 3) B; 4) A; 5) A.

The winners will both receive an Atari 600XL computer for their schools, as well as a personal gift of the Times Atlas of

World History. The eight runners up are: Martin Rooney, St. Bride's High School, East Kilbride; Sian Morse, Rosebery School, Epsom, Surrey; Samantha King, Herts & Essex High School, Bishops Stortford, Herts; Anil Patel, Cobden Junior School, Loughborough, Leics; Simon Fowler, St. Dominic's School, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex; Stephen Witter, Kings School, Peterborough; Sarah Wright, School of St Helen & St. Katharine, Abingdon, Oxon; Simon Spooner, Gillingham Comprehensive School, Gillingham, Dorset. Each receives a Times Atlas.

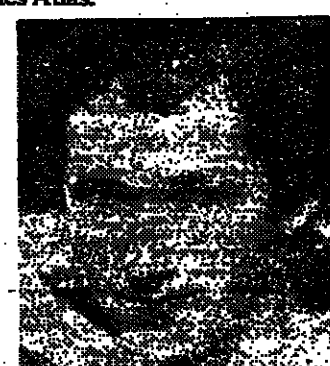


Stuart McDonald (10) left, comes from a computing household. His mother is a lecturer in computing and his father is a consultant, so it was inevitable that he took an interest in the subject.

He uses a BBC machine at home and apart from playing games, writes short programs for it. This school at present has no computer facilities, but is hoping to be allocated a machine shortly.

Apart from the micro, Stuart's other hobbies are football, chess and swimming for the local team. Anthony Cole (16) right, has just won a BBC machine in a competition linked with the film Tron.

At home, with his BBC micro, he plays games and writes utilities, using machine code. He has an O Level in computing studies, and this



year hopes for an A in the subject. Downend school is equipped with BBC, RML, and ZX81 micros, and is moving to a new computer room.

Computer Studies teacher Mrs S. Redfern is looking forward to the addition of the Atari. It will enable more of the younger children to use the facilities during the club sessions after school. Anthony is a keen photographer and cyclist.

COMPETITION No 7 Memories 2

Study the 5 questions below carefully, and select your answer from the choices given. In each case write only the appropriate code letter into the answer box. Remember to complete the tie-breaker and all other parts of this entry form in accordance with the rules - and to attach 5 entry symbols.

Closing date for entries - 1st post Friday, November 4.

1. The maximum amount of memory that can be accessed from an 8-bit microprocessor is:
A 8192 bytes
B 65536 bytes
C 131072 bytes
2. The standard IBM formatted single density 8 inch floppy disk has:
A 77 tracks
B 35 tracks
C 40 tracks
3. A what-Winnie is:
A 5 inch diameter hard disk
B A Dartmoor pony
C The other half of a famous cartoon mouse
4. A ROM is:
A a space invader from the planet Romulus
B a type of memory that you cannot change
C read/write memory
5. A CCD is:
A a plain clothes policeman
B a type of calculator/computer display
C a memory technology using electrostatic charge

Tie-breaker

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	DAY 6	

The new-hat centre

Yet another micro-based company has blossomed in the London borough of Islington. The multi-user Sig/Net series of micros, has just taken over a disused wig and hat warehouse in the new technology centre borough, and opened a new production line there.

The company set up by a graduate of Imperial College, Dr Chris Shelton in 1974, originally concentrated on consultancy work, but when Neil Harrison, who is now technical director, arrived in 1978, the company decided to put all of its efforts into the sig/Net project.

The system, which offers facilities for multi users to grow with low cost linear expansion, costs, has sold more than 2000 units in the last eighteen months, and the company, with

orders for a further 1000, is its sights set on selling 4000 units this year.

Mr Kenneth Baker, the Minister responsible for Information Technology, who opened the new premises, sees companies like Shelton beating foreign competitors at their own game, by not competing directly with Japanese and American imports.

To aid the company expansion, late last year it received an injection of capital from The BTG and Innotech Investments. With a new 16-bit, dual processor micro due to be unveiled, probably at COM-PEC, the company has expanded its workforce, and now employs what must be one of the highest-trained teams in the area, for all of the production team are at least "A" level or HNC holders, while the test team consists solely of graduates.

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In my last article I wrote that the Japanese, in devising the Fifth Generation, are proposing to change the relationship between hardware and software, moving the boundary between the two and changing much of what was previously thought to be software into hardware.

Eventually much of what was the operating software will be replaced by a set of VLSI modules integral to the system which will enable it to operate. There will still be some applications software, though how it is organised and what devices it is stored on it is yet difficult to see.

All this may seem complicated. It is. Indeed, the route that the Japanese are pursuing is not well understood even within the computing industry. To seek that understanding, it is necessary to go back to first principles and start by asking how a machine can be made to operate in parallel, the way that the Japanese have chosen to try to break the performance capability bottleneck.

It is obvious that the system

Rex Malik concludes his series examining the ways in which the Japanese are re-thinking the role of the machine

to break the task to be performed down into its component parts, operating on each part that can be separately treated independently. But that does not really answer the question. For what determines when each step is taken and the order in which it is done? how the dependencies are sorted out.

The answer is obvious, though not easy to execute. It is to impose a system of logic on the machine. This is what we do with traditional operating software, but with the computer systems we have it has not been a formal system, one independent of the machine.

Can such a system be imposed on a machine? Essentially the Japanese are committing immense resources to the proposition that it can.

Its base will be the predicate calculus, and its initial expression a language based on it called PROLOG. This was devised by a Frenchman, Alain

Colmerauer, of the University of Marseille, and an American, Robert Kowalski of Imperial College, London. Operating software is generally organised to cut down the number of instructions required to perform tasks, to try to overcome hardware limitations and increase the throughput of the systems.

A language based on a formal logic of universal characteristics, however, is bound to be different. It will probably have to go back to fundamentals each time, a reverse process. This could mean that the power requirement to cope with even trivial questions could increase substantially.

But if we can reduce each step taken down to its fundamentals, and build the machine's responses out of processing those steps, what we have created is a logical engine which is in essence independent of most of the specific tasks it performs.

We have not yet finished. If each logical step is clear of ambiguity, it becomes an elemental building block. There will need to be a lot of those. But making the machine work

now becomes a problem of logic in which the logic itself determines what parts of the system need to be called on.

What we have then is a machine in which the central hardware is a physical expression of the logic. It is now no longer a machine devised for computation but being used for other purposes, the manipulation of non-numeric information; it is an information handling machine proper.

However, as the Japanese keep on pointing out in the First Generation literature, our existing pre-56 systems are very weak in the basic functions required for processing non-numeric data, and the functions also required to handle information with a semblance of intelligence.

How best can these functions be provided? The Japanese think that it is necessary to create three basic software-in-hardware systems which will also be integral to the machine.

One is for the management of the knowledge base held within the computer, one holds the rules of inference and problem solving, and the last provides an intelligent interface to the user,

aiding users in the specification of the problem they wish solved and the provision of answers in terms they will find intelligible.

These software systems are not options, they are integral parts of a fifth generation machine.

It is the working out and the development of all these parts and processes and their creation which is expected to take at least ten years. But at the end of it there should be a working architecture from which a prospect can be built.

It will be a different product, for it should do relatively easily what computers find difficult to do today.

It cannot be emphasised too strongly that 5G is a long term project of collaborative research between government and industry. It is expected to spin off software and hardware development as it progresses, which will then be taken up by the companies taking part.

This is the challenge that faces Europe and America. This is not just an attempt to tweak existing technology and technological ideas to make them run faster, smoother, and easier.

It is an attempt to create a basic machine which can then be used in almost any sort of factual domain.

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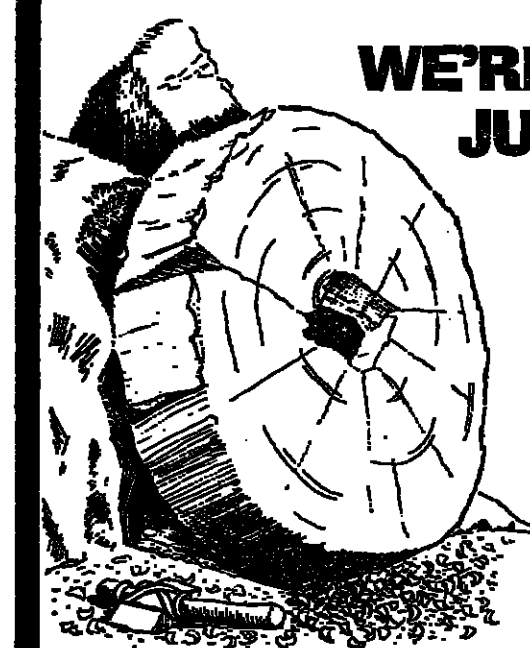
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A promise from Mr Fuchi

When (not if) Japan finally pulls off The Fifth Generation, there will no doubt be a queue of the usual figures, many corporate persons among them, trying to claim an unreal share of the credit.

Blame or credit, the man who will have to carry the burden of a sharp revolution in Japanese organisational style is Kazuhiro Fuchi, the head of ICO, The Institute for New Generation Computer Systems in Tokyo. Mr Fuchi was in London the other day, and what he had to say and report was either genuinely exciting or very depressing, according to your position and point of view.

Mr Fuchi, in private an enthusiast, in public somewhat diffident, was speaking quietly to the grandiloquently named "Fifth Generation World Conference, 1983" run by SPL Insight. On the programme with him were the heads or key members of the often hastily-assembled national projects set up to compete with 5G: the



Mr Fuchi... the architect

EEC's, the French, the German, the USA collective, and the British.

Mr Fuchi said that their first experimental processor was now being built. True, it might be a big box, but it was the prototype of the key hardware which would become the workstation of those researchers involved in 5G research.

When would it be ready? Sometime in the spring or summer of next year. And just to indicate that no-one was being fooled, that they were not talking paper machines, he also announced a Japanese conference on 5G to be held in November next year, at which

people would have the chance of seeing it, operational or not.

The Japanese speakers supporting Mr Fuchi, from ICOT and from Fujitsu, were quite happy to discuss progress, the routes being pursued, given design data, show how the software architecture was evolving and generally discuss the success they were having - or the lack of it. There was very little of the latter.

The highly focused, well integrated, and thoroughly cooperative endeavour of the Japanese was sharply differentiated from the approaches of everybody else.

As Professor Edward Feigenbaum of Stanford University, a leading worker in artificial intelligence in the USA and the author of a popular book on the Fifth Generation* put it in a video contribution, the cooperation among Japanese researchers was generally very deep and good, and they were exhibiting a better than usual learning curve.

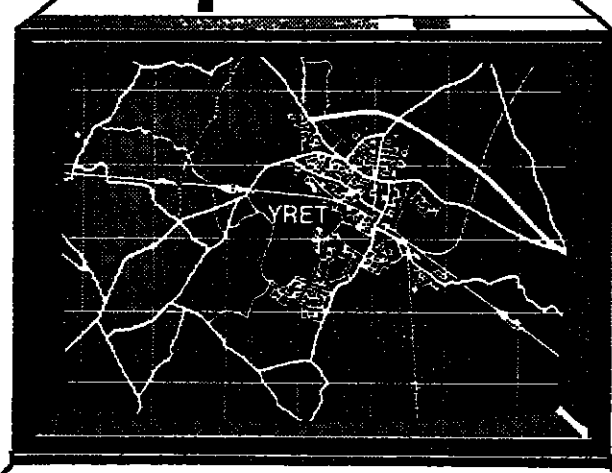
Which was not exactly the liking of everybody, and will no doubt be even less to the liking of occidental corporate managements and politicians when the conference reports start to roll in.

* "The Fifth Generation", by Edward Feigenbaum and Pamela McCorduck, is to be published in the UK by Michael Joseph, price £9.95.

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In order to accelerate the existing ambitious implementation rate, the current team is being expanded.

The staff appointed will enjoy a considerable degree of user liaison and will be expected to travel throughout the Region. Applicants should have a good working knowledge of COBOL and the ability to generate programme specifications. Real time applications experience and knowledge of the NHS would be an advantage.

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Come back, almost all can be retrieved in time

By Jacquetta Megarry

David Hewson wrote (*Computer Horizons*, October 4) of the cold dread certainty experienced by a computer user who has just wiped out the work of hours, days or even weeks at the touch of a button.

His advice is sound ("Don't just save it, print it too") but cannot be taken too literally: constantly interrupting one's writing to print out unfinished articles would defeat the object of using word processing. In any case, rekeying a long article, a complex program or an extensive data file is an error-prone chore.

So readers should know that disc disasters can usually be retrieved, and you don't need any programming skills to do it. Below I describe exactly how I retrieved an article from a faulty disc.

Users of disc-based computer systems may be aware of something called DFS: the Disc Filing System. This is just a program which takes care of storing and retrieving things on disc: it keeps track of where it has put things, what the files are called and keeps an orderly list of files in the catalogue or directory.

HOME USER

When all is well, the user doesn't need to worry about any of this. However, if things go wrong, the DFS may return ominous messages like "DISC FAULT IS AT 12 0B" when you try to save or load a file. This might just mean there is a speck of dust on the surface of the disc, or that one tiny bit of your file has been lost. But it means that to get your file back you will have to by-pass the DFS.

Again, if you tell the DFS to delete a file by mistake, you should know that it has not actually been removed from the disc. It's just that the DFS removes it from the catalogue. Attempts to load it through the DFS will fail because the DFS no longer knows where to find that file. But if you can by-pass the DFS you may find it completely intact. Indeed while looking for my article I found all sorts of other things which I thought I had deleted months ago: a sort of dream-like jumbled electronic memory.

How can you by-pass the DFS? I used a remarkable program from *Computer Concepts* called *DISC DOCTOR* which comes packaged with 19 other useful programs on a chip now permanently plugged into my BBC Micro. It costs just £25.

The morning I lost my article I would gladly have paid double that just to get it back. With other faults, different disc systems and other recovery programs, the details of what follows will vary, but the principles are the same.

First you have to find out where your file starts on the disc and where it finishes. Then you load these sectors (as the subdivisions are called) directly into your computer's memory, edit them (if you want to remove any garbage, repetition or bits that don't belong) and then save the file afresh.

Specifically, when my file wouldn't load I used "INFO" to find its length and where it was on the disc. Unfortunately the BBC tells you these numbers in hex (base 16), so the next stage is to convert them into base 10 numbers; you can get the BBC to do this for you by typing "PRINT &" before the hex number.

Then I typed "RECOVER" (the DISC DOCTOR command for recovering information directly from the surface of the disc) followed by the starting point, the number of sectors, then the number 3000 and finally the number 0. This last simply tells the system that I've only got one disc drive. The 3000 is just a convenient address in the computer's memory to put the file while you have a look at it.

Now comes the thrilling bit. A program called MZAP gives you a window into the interior of your micro's memory. Typing "MZAP 3000" starts you at address 3000, but you can wander around freely inside the memory. Having just "RECOVERed" my file, I could see the text in blocks of eight characters (letters and space) together with the hex numbers used to represent each character in the computer's memory. So I verified that I had what I wanted (and did a little editing at the same time), and simply saved the new file by typing "SAVE NEWFILE 3000".

The whole process need only have taken ten minutes, had I become so fascinated by MZAP. By going higher up the memory I found I could look at the program which was actually running: I felt like an electronic voyeur, trespassing on my micro's inner recesses.

Sometimes I found numbers changing frantically as I scrolled up and down the memory — doubtless causing further frenzied microelectronic representations elsewhere. There's something spooky about this kind of recursion — as if you could read the contents of your own brain — including your reactions to the revelation.



Million-pound software tool

By Paul Walton

The obscure art of constructing computer systems could become as simple and as reliable as civil engineering, says a pioneering software house that has developed the first tools which embody the new discipline of "software engineering".

The first software tool will apply a computer workstation to constructing computer systems for the first time, and will cost Imperial Software Technology a million pounds to develop after two years of planning how to do it.

John Parker is the principal consultant at IST, which was set up a year ago close by Imperial College in order to "develop the first ever disciplined approach to building a system using the computer, and going beyond the artistic, rather seat-of-the-pants approach used today".

He added that software tools would do away with the trial and error which programmers and analysts now go through to get a system working, and would eventually make it easy enough for anybody to apply

their computer without detailed understanding of how it worked.

The company was backed to the tune of \$750,000 last October by Plessey, Nalwest, P.A. Management Consultants and Imperial College itself after the head of computer science there, Professor Lehmann, had the idea of putting software engineering theory into commercial practice.

IST has so far attracted just over two dozen such experienced specialists from British software houses and has laid the ground rules for future prod-

ucts, helped by profitable consultancy work for some very prestigious organizations.

Parker said that work is just beginning on the first software tool, an expert system along the lines of those which the Government's Alvey collaborative research and development project was charged with producing. IST will work with other computer firms, but it has chosen to apply for a massive £300,000 grant from an existing commercial software aid scheme in order to get off to a quick start and hold on to its world lead.

Swiss contract for Scicon

Britain's Scicon, a subsidiary of BP, has won a significant contract in Switzerland with a new generation of message-switching systems. Radio Suisse, which provides private telecommunications services, has installed Scicon's new Text & Data Exchange in Bern, which will offer a private network service called Datacare III to Swiss organizations.

Scicon's software allows message-switching systems based on its new exchange to be custom-designed to users' needs. The company believes the new TD Exchange system will be used by large organizations looking for sophisticated

message switching. They allow terminals and computers to be connected to telex and telephone networks, as well as to host computers. Up to 30 fully independent networks can be operated through a single exchange.

Radio Suisse sees Datacare III as a big step forward. "We aim to be a European leader in private network services by providing a gateway for international private telecommunications," said Pierre von Niederhauser, manager of the company's consulting and engineering group.

The Swiss service will use three DEC PDP 11/44 and three

DEC PDP 11/70 minicomputers. It will be able to support 500 lines and 70 separate customer networks.

Scicon was chosen to provide the software — which is alone worth £200,000 — from among 11 other tendering organizations.

"We're offering the benefits of a tailored solution using packaged software," explained Penny Jackson, manager of Scicon's message-switching division. "And we're using that software not only to provide message switching but as a mechanism to combine data processing and communications."

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Ref: ISS/FG/T

Real-time Systems Designers/Programmers

Our Industry Group supplies computer systems and related services to energy, public utilities and manufacturing companies. Applications cover industrial plant/process control systems and special purpose micro-based systems. We are looking for people with a good degree in Computing, Maths, Science or Engineering and 2-5 years experience of real-time systems implementation, preferably using DEC/BP/microcomputers. Experience in real-time data acquisition and control systems, technical microprocessor applications, data communications or manufacturing systems would be preferred.

Salary: to £13,000 p.a.

Ref: RSP/IG/T

Real-time Software Designers

Our Technical Group works on projects in defence and emergency services, both in the UK and overseas. You will need at least 4 years real-time software experience, preferably gained in a thorough quality assurance environment, a record of successful software design and, ideally, team leadership ability. You should also be experienced in communications software, computer networks, real-time microsystems or fault tolerant systems.

Salary: to £15,000 p.a.

Ref: BSD/TG/T

Senior Analyst Programmers

Logica Special Projects is a small select team of senior staff who secure and execute large and complex software projects.

A new major project has just commenced in Baghdad, Iraq, developing a national distributed banking system. We are now seeking analyst programmers and senior analyst programmers to join our project management team there. The experience required is Honeywell Level 6, database management and transaction processing.

An attractive overseas package is offered.

Ref: SAP/SP/T

Senior Designers/Project Managers

Our Communications Group serves a wide spectrum of industries, from telecommunications, broadcasting and computing to the travel and transport sector and central government.

We seek staff with micro and mini project management experience, capable of deputising for the Divisional Manager in commercial and sales roles. You should be familiar with one or more of the following: real-time control systems, colour graphic systems and communications software.

We also require mainframe application designers who have held senior design responsibility in teams of 10 or more in a mainframe implementation environment (IBM or similar).

Salary: to £20,000 p.a.

Ref: SD/CG/T

Prospects for the right people are unparalleled. The company offers excellent working facilities in a professional, challenging environment, and a generous benefits package including assistance with relocation where applicable.

We have indicated some of the positions available, but there are other opportunities. If your own discipline is not listed do not hesitate to contact us.

Please write with full CV and quoting relevant reference number to: Julia Hall, LOGICA, 64 Newman Street, London, W1A 4SE, or telephone 01-634 5454.

logica

Investment and Finance

City Editor
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THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 686.3 down 4.5
FT 100 Index 81.43 down 0.17
FT All Share: 428.87 down 2.06
Bargains: 17,402
Datastream USM Leaders
Index 92.99 down 0.01
New York: Dow Jones
Average 1238.11 down 10.95
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones
Index 9,260.18 down 58.82
Hongkong: Hang Seng
Index 787.79 down 17.13
Amsterdam 147.8 down 0.5
Sydney: AO Index 682.8
down 5.8
Frankfurt: Commerzbank
Index 999.5 down 0.5
Brussels: General Index
124.77 down 0.48
Paris: CAC Index 139.9
down 0.2
Zurich: SKA General 289.4
down 2.1

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling
\$1.4995 down 25pts
Index 83.6 up 0.3
DM 3.912
FF 11.950
Yen 360.25
Dollar
Index 128.3 up 0.7
DM na
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.5007
Index 83.6 up 0.3
DM 3.912
FF 11.950
Yen 360.25
Dollar
Index 128.3 up 0.7
DM na
INTERNATIONAL
ECU \$0.571123
SDR £0.709329

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 9
Finance houses base rate 10
Discount market loans week
fixed 9.5-9
3 month interbank 9.5-9.5
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 9.5-9.5
3 month DM na
3 month FF na
US rates
Bank prime rate 11.00
Fed funds 9.75
Treasury long bond 10.25-10.25
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period September 7 to
October 4, 1983 inclusive:
9.719 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$396.25 pm \$394.50
close \$396 (254.25)
New York latest: \$397
"Krugman" (for coin):
\$407.75-409.25 (\$272-273)
Sovereigns (mint):
\$393.25-394.25 (\$252-253)
*Excludes VAT

TODAY

Interbank: English National
Investment Co, First Charlotte
Assets, Francis Industries,
Hamilton Oil Great Britain,
Kwik-Fit (Tyres & Exhausts)
Holdings, OK Bazaars (1929),
Richardsons-Westgarth
(amended), Runciman (Walter),
"The Times" Veneror Co,
Vanbrugh Currency Fund,
Vase Group.
Finals: Fairview Estates,
Peachey, New Australia Invest-
ment Trust, Samuel Properties.
Economic statistics: New
vehicle registrations (Sep-
tember).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

**Amalgamated Estates, Great
Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street,
EC2 (10.30).**
**Apex Properties, 243/247
Pavilion Road, Sloane Square,
SW1 (noon).**
**Associated Dairies Group,
Headingley Pavillion, St
Michael's Lane, Leeds (2.30).**
**Fashion & General Invest-
ment, The Great Eastern Hotel,
Liverpool Street, EC2 (noon).**
**Fleming Overseas Investment
Trust, F & O Building, Leaden-
hall Street, EC3.**
**Imry Property Holdings, Con-
naught Rooms, Great Queen
Street, WC2 (noon).**
**A. J. Worthington (Holdings),
Portland Mills, Leek Staffs
(11.00).**
**Ramar Textiles, Hyde Park
Hotel, SW7 (noon).**

NOTEBOOK

Highland Distilleries Company
reports 23 per cent increase in
annual profits from \$5.7m to
\$7.1m. A final dividend of 2.25p
is being proposed raising the total
for the year from 2.85p to 3.2p. The
company plans to resume pro-
duction at its Burnside distillery
on Islay which has been
mothballed for two years, for a
limited period during 1984.

WEST GERMANY yester-
day warned the EEC that it was
prepared to fight to keep out
unfairly subsidised steel im-
ports. It also hinted that it could
block reform of the EEC budget
if something was not done
quickly to stop what it believes
is dumping on its markets.

Takeover highlights British protests to EEC to open up foreign insurance markets

Eagle Star demands Monopolies inquiry to fend off Allianz

By Andrew Connolly and Ian Murray

Eagle Star Holdings will this week demand a Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation of the £692m takeover attempt by West German insurer, Allianz Versicherungs. The Eagle Star board will call for the investigation at a meeting with officials from the Office of Fair Trading. The aim would be to force the bid before the first closing date of the Allianz takeover offer on November 12.

Under Government competition rules the OFT must produce a recommendation to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The latter, in turn, will refer a qualifying takeover bid for investigation by the Monopolies Commission before the first closing date of the takeover offer.

The Allianz bid of 500p per share for Eagle Star qualifies for investigation because it represents a transfer of assets of more than £15m.

The Government is believed to be considering increasing the asset qualification for investigation of a merger from £15m to £25m to help reduce the workload of the OFT which typically examines 200 cases each year. Of these about 5 per cent have been referred to the Monopolies Commission in recent years.

Eagle Star will argue that the bid should be investigated as a means of resolving the wider problem faced by British insurers who find it almost impossible to trade on equal terms with local companies in the West German insurance market.

At a meeting in Luxembourg of EEC finance ministers Britain pressed its unsuccessful eight-year-old case for the opening of a common insurance market for the Community.

A number of court cases has been opened by the Commission against West Germany and France for refusing

to allow the liberalization of services as laid down by the Treaty of Rome. And Britain has an obvious financial interest in wanting to see this happen.

Yesterday Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, told the other finance ministers that the failure to agree on an insurance directive was "unacceptable". He was not prepared to accept a watered down version of the paper, as had been suggested by West Germany.

"It's got stuck in the mud for far too long," Mr Lawson said.

British insurers are angry that a West German company like Allianz can take advantage of the freedom of the London financial market to effect a takeover when it is almost impossible for British companies to buyout insurance companies in West Germany, and other EEC countries.

EEC rules dictate that there should be complete freedom of trade within the community.

The Trade Department considering a number of obstacles to trade unveiled by the Committee on Invisible Exports in its investigation of barriers to trade within the EEC and will present a package of complaints to the next meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in a year.

Mr Tony Ratcliffe, chief executive of Eagle Star, said yesterday that he would certainly be urging the OFT to refer the bid for his company for investigation by the Monopolies Commission.

The Eagle Star board look certain to delay publication of a full-blown defence document against the Allianz bid so that it can concentrate its energies on winning Government support for the investigation. However, Allianz will point to an earlier investigation by the Office of Fair Trading and the European Commission which cleared its acquisition of 28 per cent of Eagle Star's shares in 1981.

City Editor's Comment

Learning to live with outsiders

The Royal Lancaster Hotel in London plays host today to a conference on "Self Regulation, and the City," at which most if not all the key figures in the changing investment scene will present a mixture of progress reports and opinions on the rapid evolution of London Securities markets.

The timing of the conference is appropriate for, after years of taking it for granted that self regulation was the natural, the efficient and the much to be preferred way to exercise restraint in the financial markets, there now exists in the City a more widely-held view that some form of statutory regulation is inevitable, and may even shortly become desirable.

Behind this change of heart lies the realization that the changes now in progress, and particularly those at the Stock Exchange, challenge the assumptions on which conduct in the City has always been based.

It has until now been a relatively closed community, where most of the principals knew one another, and where almost everybody was subject to pressure from their peers, or when that was occasionally to prove inadequate, from the Bank of England.

Such a system relies not simply on the basic honesty of the majority of people involved, but also on their having a common cultural background. They need to have a similar way of doing business, similar goals, and a similar preception of what is right or wrong in business.

If the Stock Exchange is opened up to outsiders, as seems increasingly inevitable, there will be a much greater presence in London of foreign securities firms - American, Japanese and European - all of whom have their own well-established ways of doing business.

These are not always the same as British ways, and sometimes the differences can be quite marked. Though these firms will be on their best behaviour and will do their best to adapt to the British market, it would be naive to expect the adjustment to be total.

And the longer they are in Britain and the greater the business they do the more likely that their operations will follow the pattern of the parent. Otherwise, the fall would be wagging the dog.

If this were the only pressure for change then it could perhaps be contained. But it is not.

One only has to look back 20 years to the days when a rights issue document would be one page, or a prospectus at most two pages in a newspaper, to see just how far the convention of disclosure of information has advanced, and how significantly greater has become the role of the lawyer, the accountant and the merchant banker in the raising of finance for industry.

Already what is or is not disclosed has assumed most of the status of legal requirement.

And if one draws into the net the prevention of fraud legislation, the laws on insider dealing, the proposed changes resulting from the Cork report on insolvency, the perceived but again delayed reform of company law, and the ever more complex rulings of the Takeover Panel, then it is possible to claim that much of what the City does is already governed by legislation, or quasi-official law.

Eventually these threads will need to be drawn together if they are not to prove contradictory, and if and when that happens Britain will have enacted a body of securities legislation which will govern the conduct of the industry.

It will not necessarily be a Securities and Exchange Commission on the American model - indeed one would hope it would not be - but it would nevertheless be a big step beyond self regulation.

In all this turmoil the need for an adequate system of investor protection is paramount. In the US it is done by law - though not always efficiently - so in this country as more organizations become qualified to sell to the public, then the pressure for specific legislation is sure to increase.

Mesa still buying Gulf shares

By Derek Pain

Mesa Petroleum, of Texas is continuing to buy shares in Gulf Oil Corporation as the US oil group struggles to avoid a widely-expected takeover bid.

Mesa, acting with associates, now has at least 10.8 per cent of Gulf, although some sources suggest the figure is about 11.5 per cent.

The Amarillo company, headed by Mr Boone Pickens, has amassed a \$1,100m (£735m) credit to buy Gulf stock. At the 10.8 per cent mark it has spent \$791m.

Mr Pickens said yesterday that his stake may not be "passive".

Gulf, one of the world's biggest oil companies, confirmed that it has arranged a \$4,000m credit line. The package, which Gulf say will be used for "general corporate purposes" was arranged by National Westminster Bank and Bankers Trust.

A full offer for Gulf would

have to be pitched at about \$6,700m to stand a chance.

The Mesa consortium, which includes the Canadian Belzberg family and a Texas oil group called Wagner and Brown, may not itself attempt a bid. But its Gulf share stake would be a crucial factor in any takeover action and could be sold at a handsome profit to any other interested party.

Mr Pickens may also be attempting to obtain a big enough shareholding to wrest management control of Gulf.

In December Gulf intends to set up a holding company in Delaware which will allow it to end its cumulative voting system which gives each share as many votes as there are directors.

Under cumulative voting dissident shareholders can win a boardroom seat with as little as 7 per cent of the outstanding stock.



Professor Gower: report soon

Gower to favour self regulation

By Philip Robinson

The results of Professor Jim Gower's two-year study of how Britain protects its investors will be passed to the Department of Trade and Industry within five weeks.

His report is unlikely to recommend that an American-style Securities and Exchange Commission govern the United Kingdom's financial markets, but should favour those markets governing themselves, with the Department of Trade and Industry having the legal power to encourage the slow or reluctant.

Professor Gower, a part-time adviser on company law, was appointed by the Department in July 1981 to review the system of protection for investors following the spectacular collapse of several investment advisers leaving huge losses for their clients.

Since then a new association of investment advisers has been formed which promises a compensation fund for clients and similar funds are promised by the commodity markets. The Stock Exchange already has such a fund which compensates investors in the event of a stockbroker's collapse.

Professor Gower has intended to attach to his report a draft Bill detailing legislation to back the changes he feels necessary. This will now follow early next year.

The professor ran into problems with the EEC on insurance, and had to postpone recommendations concerning the Stock Exchange as it became clear it would no longer need to defend its rule book before the Restrictive Practices Court.

Telerate sets \$20m profit record

By Our Financial Staff

Telerate, the British-owned, but New York-based financial news service reported record profits and earnings yesterday.

Mr Neil Hirsch, the chief executive, said yesterday that the year ended September 30 showed net income up 80 per cent to \$20m (£13.3m) or 48 cents (32p) a share on annual gross earnings of \$61.7m (£41.1m), up 61 per cent.

Mr Hirsch was speaking at the American Electronic Association's Monetary Conference in the United States. (In London, Mr John Gunn, chairman of both Telerate and Exco International, its largest shareholder, said that sales in Britain were doing "superbly well" and sales overall were running at a highly satisfactory level.

Telerate has just received a cash injection of \$10m from the establishment of a new company with AP-Dow Jones, which should enable it to begin

fully realizing its potential this year, Mr Gunn added.

He said that the figures did not reflect profitability accurately because many of the 4,700 installations made in the year did not contribute a full year's profit as customers paid monthly.

Mr Gunn said that Telerate had suffered from the lack of a suitable infrastructure organization in Europe, but the new company will provide the distribution and servicing facilities necessary for it to compete more effectively.

Reuter, Telerate's main competitor, had 15 times more customers and usually clients ended up taking both services rather than replacing one with the other, Mr Gunn said. The two companies were not in direct competition, although Mr Gunn admitted Reuter had opened a lot of doors for Telerate.

Nissan 'assembly plan'

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The president of Nissan of Japan, Mr Takashi Ishihara, said in Tokyo yesterday that the company's proposed British operation could initially be only an assembly plant for imported parts and components.

Nissan's original proposal, made almost three years ago, was to make cars in Britain with 60 per cent British or EEC content, rising to 80 per cent when the total output of

200,000 cars a year was reached. But uncertainties over the strength of European car market and disputes with the unions and on the board of Nissan have caused the plans to be modified.

Mr Ishihara, returning from a visit to the company's largest overseas plant in Tennessee, said he now hoped to be able to persuade the company's Japanese workers to accept the project.

Securities expert for Montagu

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Samuel Montagu, one of the City's leading merchant banks, has appointed Mrs Barbara Thomas, a Commissioner of the US Securities and Exchange Commission, as an executive director from January 1. Mrs Thomas, who will be based in Hongkong and also have an office in New York, will help to further Montagu's business in both the Far East and America.



Mrs Thomas: offices in New York and Hongkong

Montagu is the merchant banking subsidiary of Midland Bank and the American insurance group Aetna Life & Casualty is a minority shareholder with 40 per cent.

Midland attracted surprise in 1980 by bringing in Mr Gadd, a Swedish banker, to run one of the City's most blue-blooded and traditional merchant banks and a member of the merchant banks elite club, the Accepting Houses Committee.

Since then a number of other outsiders have been brought in and Montagu has expanded vigorously in the international capital markets.

Mrs Thomas will be the bank's first woman executive director. A present Montagu professional managerial staff includes only about 10 women.

Early plunge in Dow

New York (AP-Dow Jones) -

Stocks held above their early lows yesterday. The Dow Jones Industrial average was down about 8.5 points at the 1,240 level, lifting from its early fall of 17 points.

But losers were still 10-to-3 over advances. The trading pace was noticeably slower than at the start. Mr Robert Farrell, Merrill Lynch analyst said that most of the "big stock and group" casualties in the past four months are where earnings disappointments have developed. Now disappointments have surfaced in some larger capitalization stocks where billions in market value vanished in minutes.

WALL STREET

General Electric was 51 1/2 down 3/4; General Motors 76 1/2 down 1/2; Ford 66 down 1/2; US Steel 28 down 1/2; International Business Machines 126 1/2 down 1/2; Teledyne 164 1/2 down 1/2; Burlington Northern 107 1/2 down 1/2; Data General 65 down 1/2; Motorola 139 1/2 down 1/2; Norfolk Southern 67 down 1/2; and Santa Fe Industries 30 1/2 down 1/2.

Exxon was off 1/4 at 38 1/2; Brown Group down 1 1/2 to 32 1/2; Raytheon up 1/4 at 45 1/2; AMR unchanged at 31; Southwest Air down 1/2 at 36; C.R. Bard down 1/2 to 37 1/2; Coleco up 1/4 at 26 1/2.

W. German economists gloomy

Bonn (Reuters) - Obstacles to a lasting economic recovery in industrialized countries remain large and growth rates will slow in some nations, according to West Germany's five leading economic research institutes.

In a regular autumn report they said only higher investment can bring a sustained upturn, but gloomy prospects for corporate sales and profits and continued high interest rates make this unlikely.

A significant easing of interest rates can be expected only when confidence returns that structural and debt problems are being overcome by sustained growth, but the report said, this is not likely to happen soon.

"As the impetuses which have caused a rise in consumer spending and home building and a more optimistic situation in warehouse stock (levels) probably tail off, economic expansion will slow down following a particularly favourable summer this year," the institutes said. They added this would be especially true of the US.

Despite the expected slowdown, the institutes said industrialized economies should show a gross national product rise averaging about a real 3 per cent next year, they said. For this year a 2 per cent growth rate is forecast, after an 0.4 per cent fall last year.

But growth will be slower in Western Europe than the US and Japan, and unemployment will continue to rise in most countries.

The US economy should grow 4 per cent next year after 3 per cent this year with unemployment falling slightly and prices rising only marginally to an average 5 per cent annual rate.

Japan's export are likely to fall next year due to weaker US demand and possible self-imposed export limits aimed at controlling the country's current surplus.

West European countries will see average growth rates of between 1 per cent (West Germany) and zero (France and Norway).

Unemployment in Europe will continue to rise, if at a slower rate. Annual inflation rates are unlikely to slow much further, and a continued large gap between rates in member countries makes probable another realignment of European Monetary System parities, they said.

Sohio to spend \$36bn on Prudhoe

From David Young, Cleveland, Ohio

The significance of the huge Prudhoe Bay oilfield in north Alaska has been revealed by spending plans from Sohio, the American oil company in which BP has a 53 per cent stake.

Sohio plans to spend \$36.5 billion (\$24.4 billion) by the end of the century from an estimated income after tax of \$48 billion.

Mr David Lybarger, exploration vice-president, said "Since Prudhoe Bay came into operation in 1977 we have cleared out debt, built up our staff in the exploration department from 320 when BP merged to nearer 4,000 now.

"We are now on the verge of a major programme of exploration. Because of our cash flow we have been able to do some very good deals. Prudhoe is the core of Sohio," he said.

Profits from Alaska and in refining and petrol sales in the northern industrial states where Sohio has 40 per cent of the petrol market, have allowed it to plan investment in its unprofitable mineral, chemicals and coal divisions.

Its strategy allows for \$300m to be invested in new coalmining technology, \$1 billion in copper mining and other invest-

ments in special chemicals and synthetic fuels.

The strategy has been explained to BP, but the unique relationship between the two companies has brought no interference in the plans from BP in Britain.

Sohio is now the leading company in the US in terms of oil reserves and is just behind Exxon in terms of oil production.

The Prudhoe field alone holds 10 per cent of the US oil reserves and Sohio are now pumping 590,000 barrels of oil a day through the 800-mile transatlantic pipeline.

November launch leaves mainland trailing

Isle of Man to open first British freeport

By Jonathan Clare

The Isle of Man is to establish the first freeport in the British Isles, a move which will steal much of the thunder of the mainland proponents of the concept.

The island's Freeport Development Authority met for the first time yesterday and will officially launch its freeport on November 9. Work is expected to start by January.

Freeports permit goods to be processed or manufactured duty free within strictly controlled zones. Tax is not applied until the product is delivered to the end user.

Those mooted for mainland Britain have got no further than the Government opening an applicant list which closes at the end of this month. Firm

announcements are expected in the new year.

The Manx freeport would be the first in the British Isles because the Shannon duty free area in the Irish Republic is not a separate enclave and is subject to EEC rules for freeports. These demand, among other things, restrictions on access, and a single entrance.

A spokesman for the Manx authority said: "We're not deliberately twanking the UK. You know, the decision to go ahead was taken some time before the UK Government's decision." But the Manx move has been kept quiet until now.

The freeport is to be built on a 22-acre "Greenfield" site next to Ronaldsway Airport. The size is substantial though smaller than, say, the 60-acre

Delaware free trade zone in the US.

It will be developed by a partnership between the Manx Government and private enterprise. The development authority is now examining proposals from various companies, including those in the property field, and from consortiums. It expects to announce its choice on November 9.

The development authority envisages building about 500,000 sq ft of space, initially divided into 50 10,000 sq ft units employing about 30 people in each.

The initial development cost would be a minimum of £12m with contingency plans for a massive increase if the idea takes off.

land freeports, the Manx one would be permanent. Under British Government proposals the mainland freeports would be reviewed at the end of a five-year experimental period.

The development authority acknowledges that its site is not a natural geographical crossroads, a factor which has helped make the Miami free trade zone so successful. But it does have an airport and good telecommunications.

Property on the island is almost rate-free and there is little red tape elsewhere - factors which will make the idea attractive to businessmen. And unlike on the mainland the idea is being supported directly by the Manx Government.

It is intended that the island's customs service, which is independent of the British force, will have permanent officers on site within a high security perimeter.

Businesses which want to take space in the freeport will also be eligible for substantial Government grants which are designed to foster industry on the island - again a contrast to the policy of the mainland Government.

The freeport will be officially unveiled next month by Mr Iain Sproat, a leading proponent of freeports, and a former Under-Secretary for Trade.

Possible mainland freeports include Felixstowe, Prestwick, Birmingham, Southampton and Heathrow.

Norwegians want greater oil stake

By Our Financial Staff

A consortium led by Den Norske Stats Oljeselskap (stat) is pressing for a larger stake in the north sea Murichson field, claiming more oil for the Norwegian sector than originally estimated, according to industry sources.

A spokesman for Conoco (UK), leader of the British Murichson Consortium, said field re-determination talks are being held. He said details should be completed in about two weeks but would not elaborate.

Industry sources claim statoil wants to raise the Norwegian stake to 25 per cent from about 16 per cent. The field lies on the Anglo-Norwegian median line 120 miles north-east of the Shetlands.

British Petroleum has accepted the fourth quarter North Sea oil prices proposed by British National Oil Corp.

It is believed BP had resented the narrowing of the price differential between its Forties field and the Shell/Esso Brent field.

The BNOC prices raise Forties by 15 cents to \$29.90 a barrel, while Brent stays at \$30.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES	
Rubber in £2 per centum	
Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per 100 lb	
SUGAR	
White, 100 lb	160.25-160.50
White, 50 lb	160.75-161.00
White, 25 lb	161.25-161.50
White, 12 1/2 lb	161.75-162.00
White, 6 1/4 lb	162.25-162.50
White, 3 1/8 lb	162.75-163.00
White, 1 3/16 lb	163.25-163.50
White, 7/16 lb	163.75-164.00
White, 3/8 lb	164.25-164.50
White, 1/4 lb	164.75-165.00
White, 1/8 lb	165.25-165.50
White, 1/16 lb	165.75-166.00
White, 1/32 lb	166.25-166.50
White, 1/64 lb	166.75-167.00
White, 1/128 lb	167.25-167.50
White, 1/256 lb	167.75-168.00
White, 1/512 lb	168.25-168.50
White, 1/1024 lb	168.75-169.00
White, 1/2048 lb	169.25-169.50
White, 1/4096 lb	169.75-170.00
White, 1/8192 lb	170.25-170.50
White, 1/16384 lb	170.75-171.00
White, 1/32768 lb	171.25-171.50
White, 1/65536 lb	171.75-172.00
White, 1/131072 lb	172.25-172.50
White, 1/262144 lb	172.75-173.00
White, 1/524288 lb	173.25-173.50
White, 1/1048576 lb	173.75-174.00
White, 1/2097152 lb	174.25-174.50
White, 1/4194304 lb	174.75-175.00
White, 1/8388608 lb	175.25-175.50
White, 1/16777216 lb	175.75-176.00
White, 1/33554432 lb	176.25-176.50
White, 1/67108864 lb	176.75-177.00
White, 1/134217728 lb	177.25-177.50
White, 1/268435456 lb	177.75-178.00
White, 1/536870912 lb	178.25-178.50
White, 1/1073741824 lb	178.75-179.00
White, 1/2147483648 lb	179.25-179.50
White, 1/4294967296 lb	179.75-180.00
White, 1/8589934592 lb	180.25-180.50
White, 1/17179869184 lb	180.75-181.00
White, 1/34359738368 lb	181.25-181.50
White, 1/68719476736 lb	181.75-182.00
White, 1/137438953472 lb	182.25-182.50
White, 1/274877906944 lb	182.75-183.00
White, 1/549755813888 lb	183.25-183.50
White, 1/1099511627776 lb	183.75-184.00
White, 1/2199023255552 lb	184.25-184.50
White, 1/4398046511104 lb	184.75-185.00
White, 1/8796093022208 lb	185.25-185.50
White, 1/17592186044416 lb	185.75-186.00
White, 1/35184372088832 lb	186.25-186.50
White, 1/70368744177664 lb	186.75-187.00
White, 1/140737488355328 lb	187.25-187.50
White, 1/281474976710656 lb	187.75-188.00
White, 1/562949953421312 lb	188.25-188.50
White, 1/1125899906842624 lb	188.75-189.00
White, 1/2251799813685248 lb	189.25-189.50
White, 1/4503599627370496 lb	189.75-190.00
White, 1/9007199254740992 lb	190.25-190.50
White, 1/18014398509481984 lb	190.75-191.00
White, 1/36028797018963968 lb	191.25-191.50
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White, 1/5	

Marketing and advertising: how consultancies are changing City's attitude to creativity

Smiling Mona Lisa joins campaign to brush up image of design firms

"The relationship between creativity and commerce is an uneasy one. By and large, business does not understand the creative process, and history is littered with creative ideas compromised by the insensitivity of the balance sheet."

So begins a 90-second television commercial to be screened next Sunday during ITV's current affairs programme *Weekend World*. The theme is taken further in a radio commercial, set in Leonardo da Vinci's studio, in which the great man is asked by his patron: "Why she no smile, My Mona?"

Leonardo is prevailed upon to paint in a smile. "Lisa your money", he says.

The company that is putting its own money into this marriage of commerce and creativity is a design consultancy, the Michael Peters Group, which next week enters the Unlisted Securities Market, the third design company to do so after Allied International Designers (now Aidcom International) and Fitch & Company.

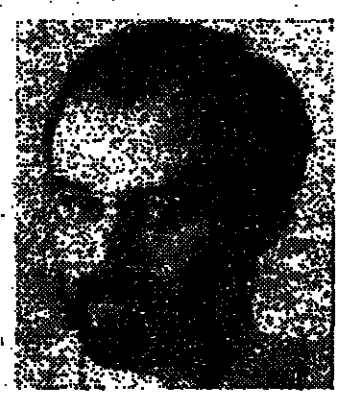
Design is one of a number of areas in the creative and marketing services field with which the City is beginning to familiarize itself alongside advertising, public relations, research and sales promotion - and one of the purposes of the Michael Peters commercials is to get the whole business of design better understood.

"I want to fly the flag for design," says the chairman and managing director, Mr Michael Peters. "I would like to think that we can become the Saatchi & Saatchi of the design industry. People are now beginning to understand that good design can increase a company's profitability and we shall be attempting to communicate this to the City."

Mr Peters's ambition to emulate Saatchi & Saatchi stems not just from a desire to be the biggest and the best-known but also from a realization that it was Saatchi which pulled off the immensely difficult trick of persuading the City that advertising was a business worth investing in, a campaign that has benefited not just other advertising agencies wanting to go public but firms in allied fields, such as design, as well.

One reason the Saatchi gloss

Torin Douglas, who has been given the Marketing Society's journalism award for his regular articles in *The Times*, looks at new ideas from commercial studios on self-promotion



has rubbed off on these other companies is that City institutions are still not clear how the functions of an advertising agency differ from those of a design consultancy or a sales promotion firm. To an extent, this does not matter, since expenditure on marketing generally - not merely media advertising - is growing.

But design consultancies suffer from some disadvantages that advertising agencies do not. In addition to the fact that, like advertising agencies, their main assets are not equipment but

people - and hence they are vulnerable to poaching or breakaways, sometimes with the loss of big slices of business - design work tends to be commissioned on an *ad hoc*, project-by-project basis, whereas most advertising accounts stay with an agency for years.

More importantly, perhaps, the design industry is far less well documented in economic terms than the advertising business.

One way Saatchi helped achieve its transformation in the City's attitude to what had seemed a fairly frivolous activity, was by its marshalling of the copious statistics that the advertising business generates. In successive annual reports, it was able to show that advertising expenditure was growing fast, despite the recession, and

that this trend was likely to continue.

This is something the design business cannot do, for there are few statistics available about expenditure on the design function. The growth has, therefore, to be demonstrated in other ways. One way is simply in terms of the performance of the publicly quoted companies, each of which is growing fast and has a high p/e ratio as a result, but a more important factor, according to some stockbrokers, is the emphasis being placed on design by retailers, and in particular the high standing in City circles of Sir Terence Conran.

Mr Mark Shepherd, an analyst at Phillips and Drew, says: "There has been a great shake-up in the retail world and more and more retailers are placing great importance on design as a way of boosting their business."

"We are seeing large quoted companies pointing to design consultancies as the way to get themselves back on the road. Habitat is a living example of the fact that design can increase profits and the Burton Group, which has had a long history of using Fitch & Company, is another."

Mr Paul Deacon, of Capel Gure Myers, says: "The retail scene is a very mature area and now that the cushion of inflation seems to have been removed it is going to be hard for it to show real growth."

"In this situation, retailers are having to change their marketing mix to ensure growth and that, increasingly, means using design. The City certainly regards design as a growth area."

Both the existing quoted companies are strong in retail

DESIGN COMPANIES' FINANCIAL RECORD (£000s)						
Fitch & Company			Aidcom*		Michael Peters Group	
	Turnover	Profit before tax	Turnover	Profit before tax	Turnover	Profit before tax
1980	2,867	600	1,686	190	1979	552
1981	3,806	707	2,036	134	1980	718
1982	4,001	875	4,858	348	1981	964
					1982	1,300
					1983	1,867

*Aidcom now includes considerable non-design interests. Aidcom year ends October 31. Fitch & Company December 31. Michael Peters Group June 30.

design. Fitch recently designed the new generation of Top Shops for Burton, as well as doing work for Comet, UDS, Lawleys and Keith Prowse, while Aidcom has a joint company with the House of Fraser - House of Fraser (International) - and is expected shortly to be given a big design project by the company.

The Michael Peters Group, by contrast, is better known for its packaging work, for clients such as Bird's Eye, Seagram and Fisons, which was the foundation of its business, but it has produced some successful retail design - the distinctive look created for Thresher's off-licence chain is one, the new International Coffee Centre another - and the retail area is now an important priority for the company.

Mr Peters says: "We want to bring the fun back into the high street. People want something new in retail design and we are able to provide it."

The Peters Group began as a packaging design consultancy, Michael Peters & Partners, in 1970 and now includes four other companies specializing in annual reports, new product development, sales promotion and studio work. Turnover last year was £1.87m and profit before tax was £230,000, up from £60,000 five years ago. Mr Peters maintains his company's work not only produces commercial results for its clients but also wins creative awards.

Mr Peters himself is very much the dominant figure in the company, an undoubted salesman of his company's work and design in general. As such, the style of his company is in marked contrast to that of Fitch & Company and Aidcom both, of which now have a great depth

of management. Does he worry that his close personal involvement in all aspects of the company might be seen as inappropriate by the City?

"I am determined to remain close to what is going on, because I believe that is the way to produce the best work," he says. "I think the founders of some design companies are now too far removed from what is going on. We are not going to lose the quality of our work by going public."

Mr Peters and his finance director, Mr Robert Silver,

Habitat is a living example of the fact that design can increase profits and Burton Group is another

recognize there are added pressures on companies by going public, particularly the need for consistent growth of turnover and profits, but they maintain that these are more than outweighed by the benefits.

Mr Silver says: "It is now possible for people who have been successful in business to realize some of their income, and that is obviously a factor."

"But, equally as important, it means that the company's staff can have a share in its success, and in a business where the main asset is the people and there is the possibility that they could just leave and start up on their own, this is very worthwhile."

The Peters Group is also intending to move to larger

premises and to invest in the technology required for the rapidly growing field of computer-aided design. But perhaps the most important factor, Mr Peters says, is simply the opportunity to have a new platform to talk about design to the business community; next week's advertising campaign will be followed by a number of ventures intended to get design discussed more widely.

Mr Peters will not have the stage all to himself, however, for both Fitch and Aidcom have already paved the way in the education process. Aidcom, which now takes in publishing, technology and research companies as well as Allied International Designers, has produced a number of handsome brochures explaining how design works, complete with numerous case histories showing sales and profit increases, while Mr Rodney Fitch, the founder of Fitch & Company, maintains that, like Mr Peters, one of his main motivations for going public was to raise the profile of design within the business community.

Mr Fitch says: "Obviously the chance to make some money is a big factor in the decision to go public, and anyone who says it is not is truthful. It also helps hold together the team of people who work for you and I am determined that Fitch & Company should become more than a one-generation business that has not really happened before in the design world, either here or in America."

"But it is vital that we persuade people that design is a professional, accountable business and one cannot do that simply by being a successful private company. It can be done only by getting larger and having a more public profile."

Whitehall notebook Britoil's scars are starting to fade

After almost a year of life as a private sector company, Britoil is slowly beginning to rehabilitate its image with the financial community. According to Mr Roy Dancic, the company's finance director, the scars left by the unhappy circumstances of Britoil's flotation last November are beginning to heal and to be replaced by a more positive attitude from investors and the capital markets.

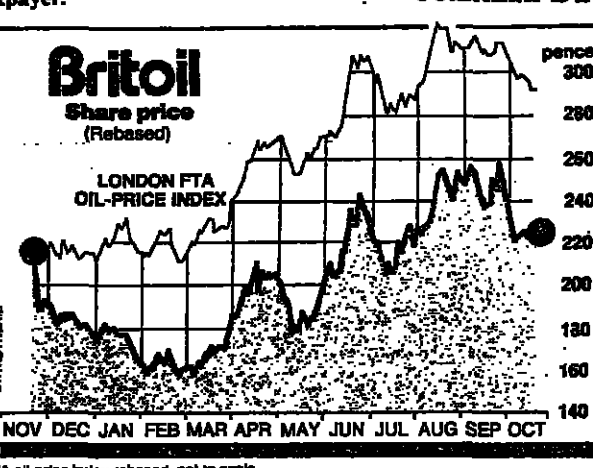
Not only are the shares trading regularly above the demanding issue price of 215p set by the then Secretary of State for Energy, Mr Nigel Lawson (after their initial plummet, the shares touched 250p at one point in the summer), but the company has also been able to complete a successful two-part restructuring of the debt in its balance sheet.

A \$100m Eurobond issue last month went so well that it was promptly increased by \$25m to meet the market demand, and the company followed it up by tying up a \$150m short-term borrowing facility on the New York commercial paper market. Although Britoil has yet to raise any new money, which will be a real test of its financial standing, these modest debt restructuring moves have enabled it at least to lengthen the maturity of some of the debt it acquired in its old nationalized industry days and to test its creditworthiness in one of the world's most demanding credit markets.

The company is particularly pleased to have secured the top short-term paper credit ratings from Standard and Poors (A1+) and from Moody's, putting it in the top drawer of British blue-chip borrowers alongside such names as BP, Shell, Unilever and Bechtel.

These moves are particularly interesting in the light of the bruising battle that Britoil waged with the Government last year over the form its balance sheet should take at the time of flotation, an argument that Britoil comprehensively lost in the face of Mr Lawson's post-Amersham determination to be seen to secure the best deal for the taxpayer.

Jonathan Davis



APPOINTMENTS

Lord Limerick for De La Rue board

The De La Rue Company: The Earl of Limerick has joined the board. He is vice-chairman of Kleinwort Benson, and was, until earlier this year, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board.

Electra Risk Capital: Mr Jeremy Mackay-Lewis, senior partner of the Whinney Mackay-Lewis, has been appointed a non-executive director.

Radio West: Mr M. J. (Duke) Hussey has been elected chairman following the retirement of Professor Glyne Wickham.

Tefal UK: Mr Steve Breeze has been made managing director.

Hawker Siddeley Group: Sir James Hamilton has become a non-executive director.

Cambridge Petroleum Royalties: Mr Christopher Jenner has been made managing director.

Ulster Television: Mr Peter Battle has become sales director.

Arbutnot Properties: Mr Martin Myers has joined the board.

Grundig International: Mr Michael Walker has been appointed sales director and Mr



The Earl of Limerick

Tony Mason has been promoted to the board and become director of marketing services.

Wrightson Wood (UK): Lord Birdwood becomes managing director. Mr David Reid is appointed managing director of Wrightson Wood Management and Mr David Fineshney joins the group and is appointed managing director of Wrightson Wood Financial Services, a joint venture with the Edinburgh merchant bank, Noble Crossart.

Royal Doulton: Mr Michael of Worthington has joined the boards of Royal Doulton Tableware and Royal Doulton Tableware (Holdings). He will continue as secretary of both companies.

Arthur Guinness: Dr Arthur Furr, chairman of Nestlé, become a non-executive director.

Vickers-Dawson: Mr I D Nelson is the new managing director.

Bradbury, Wilkinson: Mr G E Hall has been elected a deputy chairman and Mr J R Mundy is appointed group managing director.

Mountleigh Group: Mr Barrie Johnston has become a non-executive director.

Nuclear Enterprises: Dr Michael Mayhew is the new marketing director. He succeeds Mr Joseph Griffiths who is now managing director. Mr Robert Randall has become marketing director of Thorn EMI Electron Tubes.

Montford (Knitting Mills): Mr L. W. Whitaker has been elected managing director.

Scottish and Universal Investments: Mr Andrew Love has joined the board. He is managing director of the Dunlop-Forsyth Motor Group, where he will retain his job.

Deutsche Westminster Bank: Mr Allan Cooper has become regional marketing manager of the bank, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of NatWest. Berger Descriptive Paints: Mr Roger Williams has been elected managing director.

Midland helps Brazil to meet IMF terms

By John Lawless

Midland Bank is helping Brazil to meet one of the main IMF conditions for its rescue package by arranging medium-term finance for its exporters.

The deals it hopes to conclude next week - worth up to \$150m (£100m) for sales to countries - are minute compared with Brazil's total debt of \$90 billion. But they are providing a growing source of business for the trade finance house, Aval, which Midland acquired from Guinness Peat in July.

Mr Ian Guild, Aval's chief executive, who is to spend a week in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, said: "We have already financed the sales of Brazilian cars parts to the United States and West Germany."

Aval's expertise lies in financing a trade financing technique that has struggled to compete in recent years, though market conditions are said to have moved decidedly in its favour in the last 18 months.

Mr George Barrett, chairman of the bank's International Trade Services division, said: "Midland is now a world force in financing."

Tomorrow, at a presentation in London, he will detail how two small offices, in Vienna and Lausanne, have been consolidated with Aval's operations - further to pep up the increasing competition in the forfait market.

Midland is competing with the other clearing banks, but claims to be the only one with a distinctly separate operation.

It will probably be rivalled most by the London offices of Hungarian International Bank and Credit Anstalt, of Austria - which learnt the business in the 1960s, when it was developed to cope with the huge volumes of trade between West Germany and Eastern Europe.

It is easy to see why exporters in countries which have difficulty in arranging credit should be so keen on forfaiting: they are paid in full the moment they ship their goods.

Forfaiters argue, however,

INTERNATIONAL TRADE

that they can now compete with the major state insurance concerns, like the Export Credits Guarantee Department for British sales. Mr Guild said: "We also see a great potential in the US for similar reason. The higher premiums now being charged by the Government-sponsored schemes."

An exporter of, say, £30m worth of tractors to India would currently have to build 12.5 per cent into his contract price in order to arrange a five-year credit. Forfaiting firms calculate their charges by adding a margin of 1.5 to 2 per cent to LIBOR.

The customer usually issues promissory notes to pay half-yearly - but can also use bills of exchange - which must carry a bank endorsement. Mr Guild added: "Unlike ECGD, which insures all of a company's exports or nothing, and covers 85 or 90 per cent of their value, forfaiting enables the exporter to pick and choose what he wants to finance, and provides 100 per cent cover."

"This is fixed rate finance, without recourse to the exporters should anything go wrong."

Mr Guild also argues that state insurance agencies delay for at least six months before meeting claims for late payments.

ECGD, however, counters that, even in the riskiest markets, it remains on-cover until the last possible moment.

The cost equation for exporters who do not care about a spread of markets, though, is a fine one. ECGD premiums range from 1.25 to 4 per cent.

For the poorest countries, the new consensus on subsidized interest rates means that a customer would pay 9.5 per cent.

Add the two together, and compare it with forfaiting's all-in 12.5 per cent, and buyers of Indian tractors - and other importers who end up footing the bill - do appear to have a new choice to make.

Fujitsu computers boom

Tokyo (AFP) - Fujitsu, Japan's top computer maker, is expecting a 19 per cent increase in sales and profits in the year ending next March. The company executives attribute this to a booming demand for integrated circuits and large computers.

They said yesterday that Fujitsu's operating profits would be about ¥75 billion,

WALL STREET

	Oct 21	Oct 20		Oct 21	Oct 20		Oct 21	Oct 20
ALCOA Inc	17 1/4	17 1/4	Pat Penn Corp	6 1/4	7	Pub Ser H & Gas	24 1/2	24 1/2
Alcoa Inc	17 1/4	17 1/4	Pat Penn Corp	6 1/4	7	Pub Ser H & Gas	24 1/2	24 1/2
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RACING: MIXED FORTUNES FOR TWO JOCKEYS

Dettori wins ban appeal

By Michael Seely

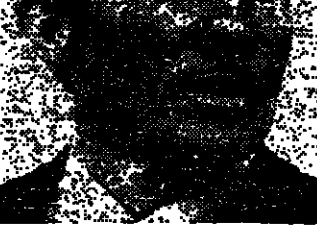
Gianfranco Dettori, left Jockey Club headquarters in Portman Square a relieved man at 1.30 yesterday afternoon. The eight-day suspension for careless riding that was handed out to the times champion Italian jockey for his handling of Tolomeo in the Dubai Champion Stakes at Newmarket on October 15 has been lifted. This means that Dettori will be free to ride in a big race in Italy on Sunday.

The disciplinary committee of the jockey club, sitting under the chairmanship of Sir John Astor, studied both the race RTS and ITV recordings of the race. They also interviewed several people including Peter O'Sullivan and Lord Alton. They found that Tolomeo had edged left into the rails, closing the door on Miramar Reef, but that interference had been accidental. Therefore, although Dettori was acquitted, Tolomeo remained demoted from second to fourth place.

After the hearing, Luca Cuman, Tolomeo's trainer said: "I'm disappointed about the placings not being altered, but I'm pleased for Dettori. The jockey's only comment was 'I'm very happy. The wind was

very strong that day and it was a very dangerous race." The video recordings showed the reason for the committee's decision. The RTS camera was continually shaken by the gale and the film was consequently difficult to interpret. However, the side-on view shown by the ITV film revealed exactly what had happened. Both horses had found openings at the same time, Tolomeo quickening to move into the lead and Miramar Reef to take a challenging position on the rails. Racing down the hill into the dip, Tolomeo swerved to his left, thereby taking Miramar Reef's ground. It was also noticeable that Gruns of Navarre, who had been hampered by the French horse Alizeo and that divine providence had come to the aid of Steve Causton and Cormorant Wood when a gap finally appeared between Flame of Tara and Tolomeo.

This case certainly vindicates the Jockey Club's policy that a horse should be disqualified if he has affected another animal's chance by interference. All horses can and do swerve under pressure and at times it is impossible to decide whether the rider or his mount has been responsible.



Franco Dettori: ban lifted

Switching to the National Hunt scene, Ron Barry, who had been champion jump jockey twice, is to receive, a testimonial. Peter Greenall, a director of the brewing firm of Greenall, Whiteley and a former champion amateur National Hunt rider, is to organize and sponsor the testimonial.

Greenall and Barry yesterday launched the testimonial with a press reception at Lymington, Cheshire. They flew to London to meet the southern press. Barry said that he was delighted to be the first jockey to be given a testimonial.

Barry came over from Ireland to join Gordon Richards at Penrith 20 years ago and rode his first winner on Final Approach at Ayr on October 19, 1964. Altogether he has ridden 822 winners.

Carson is in trouble again

While Carson, who has spent nearly a month out of action this season as a result of suspensions for careless riding, was yesterday reported to the stewards of the Jockey Club for that offence again on his return at Nottingham from a 12-day ban.

The stewards found that in winning the last race, the Woodborough Maiden Stakes (division II), My Alesing, a chance to win, was lost to Steve Causton, being injured earlier in the afternoon. Carson's mount had interfered with the third horse, favourite Nephew. They considered it careless riding by Carson, and referred the matter to the stewards of the Jockey Club for that offence this season.

Carson again - Unbelievable isn't it. An accident and it was not my fault again. Carson said on leaving the stewards' room. The video recording clearly showed My Alesing swerving violently to the right at the four furlong marker, and colliding with Nephew.

My Alesing, who won by three-quarters of a length and half a length from May Be This Time, was disqualified a placed third. It was the second time My Alesing has been disqualified this season.

Carson might be in trouble again, but he earned his fifth Jockey's championship by bringing a 21-1 double on Turkish Delight and Road To The Top. It brought his season's tally to 154, ten more than Lester Piggott, who took the day off.

It was an even happier day for Britain's oldest flat jockey Johnny Seagrave, who was taken to hospital with neck and head injuries after a pile-up in the Flawburgh Maiden Filly Stakes.

Seagrave, aged 50, who had ridden his 77th winner of the season on a horse called Legal Sound, was kicked when Penrhyn fell in the middle of a 23 strong field about a quarter of a mile from home.

The stewards found the accident was caused by general crowding and possibly Penrhyn striking into the back of the crowded field. They did not blame any particular jockey.

Carson managed to avoid the melee on Road To The Top, who won by six lengths from Arthur Hughes.

It was a typical pushing and driving finish by Carson which enabled him to bring home the 7-1 chance Turkish Delight a three-quarters of a length winner of the Woodborough Nursery.

The novice hurdler Burgundy was disqualified from first place in the Ayr Philip Corras Qualifier on October 8 after the Jockey Club disciplinary committee heard that his amateur rider Sandy Davidson had claimed 7th when he was only entitled by his age to claim 4th. Davidson was fined £25, and the race was awarded to Watchtower Wood.

Redcar

Draw: no advantage

1.30 KILTON STAKES (maiden; selling; 2597; 1m 4f)

1.30 KILTON STAKES (maiden; selling; 2597; 1m 4f) (10 runners)
2.0000 DUSTY PATH W. Bailey 5-0 J. Channon 3
2.0000 TROBROCK D. Venn 4-0 P. J. Channon 3
1.0000 GARY SHAW W. Bailey 5-0 P. J. Channon 3
1.0000 BLUISHING NURSE W. Bailey 5-0 P. J. Channon 3
1.0000 DELMONTU TERN W. Bailey 5-0 P. J. Channon 3
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East Germany against spread of participation money

By Pat Butcher

RUGBY UNION: THE JOYS OF RUNNING AND PASSING

Welsh class of '83 can do better: must pay attention to Japanese lessons

By Gerald Davies

"Of course, it was not real rugby," the man coming out of Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday said, happy to have been entertained but who has allowed himself to be persuaded over the years that rugby is somehow less "real" if the emphasis is on passing and running.

Too much one-dimensional club rugby of late will have conditioned his response so that without the muscular trappings of forward play, any game which sets store on keeping the ball moving is seen as nothing more than a frolic and not to be taken seriously.

In this instance, Wales will do well to consider themselves the pupils and to learn from the Japanese experience. It underlined that the basic skills of running and passing have deteriorated in recent years.

If those who have suggested this have been accused of looking back - nostalgically - they will have had their views confirmed by the Japanese.

It is no bad thing for a rugby team to be denied their fair share of possession and for it to have doubts about its forward power. To feel uncertain helps to concentrate the mind, reduce complacency and force a team to refine its more subtle skills.

By virtue of necessity, Japan exploits the potential of all its players and its areas of possible strength. They have mastered the mechanics of the scrum and of the five teams they played - including the Welsh team - only Pembrokeshire, curiously

enough, managed to get the better of them.

They kept their best line-out work and the variety which they bring to it until last. It proved fruitful at the Arms Park when the line-out count worked in their favour. For John Bevan, the Welsh coach, it was the support work and the swift arrival at the point of breakdown which impressed him.

Yet despite all this, they have more often than not to exist on the insecure edges of the game, often arriving as observers, constantly involved in the task of tackling or reduced to chasing shadows. But they are making substantial advances.

With the shrewd and highly gifted Matsuo to give them a sense of direction and control, much of the hyper-activity and fidgeting "busy-ness" that once characterized their game and which rarely left anywhere, has virtually disappeared.

Happily, Wales, like Newbridge last Tuesday, took up the gauntlet and contributed to the running game. They were successful to a large extent, but there was a noticeable contrast. Japan were passing confidently in knowledge they were good at it, while Wales did so hesitantly in the process of timidly relearning a skill which they had partially forgotten.

"Even in losing, I feel we have won," was Shiggy Konno's verdict. "This victory was televised live to Japan, will ensure that the game continues to grow." But he is realistic to acknowledge that it will not



Japanese forwards are growing in stature as the Welsh found out at Arms Park. Photograph: Tony Monaco.

bring him in line of regular competition with the big rugby playing countries.

"These short tours are ideal for us. For men of our stature, we could not face a longer commitment, nor, because we are very amateur in our approach, could our players

afford time off from their professional duties."

It is the United States and Canada for him next year and, when he and his counterpart in Paris are able to disentangle each other's linguistic complexities, he is hoping for a tour to France.

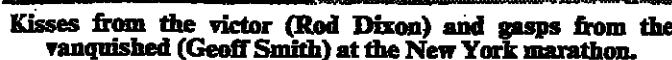
By David Hands
Bristol, the John Player Cup holders, provide only one player in the South and South-West XV which will play Newbridge next Monday in a warm-up game before the divisional side is chosen to play against the All Blacks at Bristol on November 15. That player is Harding, the scrum half, and it is a notion of how the province has swung away from Bristol since their cup win over Leicester last May at Twickenham.

It is, however, an imaginative side which gives promising players the chance to stake a claim. Half, the Bath flanker, for instance, plays in the position which normally Gadd of Gloucester would be expected to occupy; similarly Spurrell (Bath) plays at number seven.

The fitness of the team's captain Blackwell, who has had hamstring trouble, is in some doubt while Newport, smart as they are, are smart enough to realize that Newport's second team at the weekend without any ill effects, but is far from match fit. He is keen to play against New Zealand, however.

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Legal Appointments



By Pat Butcher

A prize of \$20,000 persuaded Nzau, who had to outspend Jones appreciation in a tangible fashion by rewarding the clubs and the athletes.

Another sports celebrity, Jean-Claude Killy, of France, a triple gold medalist in skiing in the 1968 Olympics, completed his first marathon in 3:58:08.

By Sri Kumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

If their meeting yesterday is anything to go by, the two men should bring the house down on the morning of the 19th when he gives his first Fleet Street conference and decided to make the most of it. Gardner, of course, has been a member of the club already, and by claims that he had tried to get out of this bout, the Hackney great said he was "not a member of the club." The young fellow from Liverpool piping up all the time. "Why don't you shut up," Gardner warned the other. "You're talking too quick." "He'll go in four."

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also on page 28

Diplomats scramble for planes to evacuate foreigners in Grenada

From Christopher Thomas, Bridgetown

Attempts were being made yesterday by British, American and Canadian authorities to repatriate foreign nationals from the beleaguered Caribbean island of Grenada.

The situation was fraught with confusion as flights were cancelled and conflicting messages passed between the island and Barbados, where the evacuation attempts were being co-ordinated.

The Canadian High Commission had chartered an aircraft to remove some Canadians and a small number of Britons early yesterday morning, but the flight was cancelled.

Late in the afternoon the Canadians were still hopeful that a small aircraft would land on the island from Barbados and take away the Canadians and about eight Britons. The British High Commission, meanwhile, is hoping to charter a 48-seater today to take the remainder of the 32 British

holidaymakers who want to leave.

Airline officials have been desperately trying to find somebody of authority in the Barbados Government to tell them if they could fly to Grenada after the decision by the Caribbean Community the previous night to ban flights to the island. Barbados was party to that decision.

The deputy Prime Minister's office in Barbados said that no scheduled flight could go to Grenada.

Private charter companies said they could not fly because the single air traffic controller at Grenada would not give clearance for planes to land or take off.

"Everybody has been in meetings all day long trying to assess the situation," the American Embassy in Barbados said.

But last night the signs were that Grenada intends to allow the repatriation of foreigners.

Mr David Montgomery, the British Deputy High Commissioner to Barbados, who was allowed on the island on Saturday and Sunday, said he had found Grenada "like a ghost island".

The curfew ended at 6 am yesterday and was replaced by an indefinite night-time curfew from 8 pm to 5 am. Shops, factories, offices and government buildings reopened but schools will remain closed for another week.

The majority decision by the 13-member Caribbean Community (Caricom) on Sunday night to suspend Grenada from the body is designed to isolate the new military regime from the rest of the English-speaking Caribbean.

● LONDON: The Government is in close contact with Caribbean Commonwealth countries over the situation in Grenada, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, told the Commons yesterday.



London's pride: The Duchess of Kent giving Phoenixia Douglas, aged six, a day to remember when both were guests at a special Vintage '83 luncheon for 150 of Greater London's older citizens in the Rainbow Rooms, off Kensington High Street, yesterday. The Duchess was guest of honour as patron of Age Concern England, co-organizers of the event with the Greater

London region. She was presented with a posy by the young girl, the daughter of an Age Concern clerk. It was hoped the event would draw attention to some of the outstanding contributions older men and women have made, and are still making, to life in the capital.

(Photograph: Brian Harris)

Frank Johnson in the Commons Serenity, in shades of green

On, then, to the start of a new parliamentary year. As always, on the first day's sitting after the long recess, the atmosphere was of new beginnings. Members wandered in, greeting one another. The chamber had a new green carpet. The Labour Opposition had a new green leader. Both will be much walked over in the months that lie ahead. But yesterday both looked clean and bright.

Mr Kinnock was continuing to enjoy what it is customary to refer to as the honeymoon phase of his leadership. He and his opponents eyed one another almost benignly. Within a short time, harsh words will be said on both sides. But yesterday, for what would surely prove to be all too brief a period, he and the Parliamentary Labour Party refrained from making party political points against one another.

On the third bench above the gangway on the Opposition side, Mr Michael Foot continued to hold the post to which he was first appointed in 1945, of lovable left wing backbencher without responsibility. Since 1980 he had doubled as Leader of the Opposition. In the end there was found to be a conflict of interest. But he decided, as the phrase has it, "to tough it out" and refuse to resign the office of lovable left wing backbencher without responsibility. Yesterday, he sat there defiantly.

In Mr Foot's former place on the Opposition front bench sat Mr Kinnock. He walked in during question time and immediately started being silent. Not a word escaped the legendary tongue of this player who had windbagged for Wales on a hundred question times and a thousand question times.

But it is not until Prime Minister's question time today that he windbags for his country for the first time as captain, against England, led by Mrs Thatcher. As nervous, but determined, players are wont to do in Cardiff Arms Park on the eve of a terrifying international, he was in the stadium to soak up the atmosphere - to test the disposition for dumping, get his eye in, to mouth silently the spontaneous outbursts he was planning for the morrow when all Wales would be roaring him on.

Meanwhile, at question

time, Scotland's Mr. Dennis Canavan, the Labour member for West Stirlingshire, denounced to Mr. Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Aid, British policy in the Philippines. Mr. Raison seemed unaware of what British policy in the Philippines was. So, wisely, he replied: "I shall look into the matter and write to the Hon gentleman."

It was almost certain, however, that we did have a policy in the Philippines. For we seemed to have a policy yesterday for all manner of parts. Sir Geoffrey Howe arrived and said his officials had "found the island calm but tense". Since the subject had moved on from the Philippines, one at first assumed this to be a reference to Britain. It seemed a fair description of the island.

Close attention revealed him to be talking about Grenada. After that, he made a statement about the Lebanon. Then, the new Secretary of Transport, Mr Nicholas Ridley, arrived to make a statement about an area normally regarded as being outside the Government's sphere of influence or power to affect events: British Rail.

Mr Ridley seemed to see it as his task to bring peace to the primitive warring factions of NLR and ASLEP. But as always, in these conflicts, it looked as if the innocent taxpayer would suffer. For, despite his reputation as a man of the Right, Mr Ridley made the distinctly wistful observation: "It is not the Government's intention that the board should embark on a programme of major route closures."

Mr James Prior, the Secretary for Northern Ireland, also arrived to make a statement. As a place susceptible to British influence, Northern Ireland is a borderline case, halfway between the Philippines and British Rail. During the recess, Mr Prior has mislaid 19 terrorists from the Maze prison. He was sorry. A Tory newcomer to the backbenches, Mr Nicholas Soames, demanded to know why so many terrorists were being kept in one place, get his eye in, to mouth silently the spontaneous outbursts he was planning for the morrow when all Wales would be roaring him on.

Meanwhile, at question

Howe shares MPs' doubts on British forces

Continued from page 1

But he wanted an assurance that the Government was "considering the wisdom of continuing to make a contribution to this force."

There was much scepticism and anxiety on the Conservative benches. Sir Anthony Kershaw, chairman of the Select Committee of Foreign Affairs in the last Parliament, said we should not break with our allies at this moment, but the British contingent was manifestly doing no good.

● PARIS: France will remain in Lebanon, President Mitterrand confirmed on his return last night from his lightning visit to Beirut (Diana Geddes writes). The prime objective of the French contingent in Beirut was to defend the causes of peace, he said.

Speaking in a radio interview from the Elysee Palace just 17 hours after he had left the French capital for Beirut, President Mitterrand said:

"A country is great by virtue of its greatness of heart, its determination, its friendships, and the respect which it merits. That is why in Lebanon, France is and will remain faithful to its history and to its undertakings."

Relief in Beirut at US pledge on marines

Continued from page 1

What made these words so chilling was that they did appear to come from the movement that organized the bombing. While the Americans and French suspect that both Syria and Iran had a hand in the attacks, they believe the suicide bombers were Lebanese Shia Muslims sympathetic to Iranian Shiism.

The statement, however, was totally at odds with the acts which it described. Nothing could have better illustrated this than the plight of a woman outside the ruins of the French headquarters. Her daughter and three grandchildren - the family of the doorman - were still buried in the rubble and she still hoped against all odds that they would be pulled out alive.

President Mitterrand put his arms round her to console her and kissed her. Her son-in-law shook hands with the French President who was visibly moved. The husband said quietly that the youngest of his three children was only three months old.

The Lebanese Government announced last night that President Gemayel would be travelling to Geneva for the talks on October 29.

after the tens of thousands of deaths in the country over the past eight years, printed some of its most emotional headlines about the slaughter, referring to the American and French dead as "martyrs".

Far more disturbing sentiments, meanwhile, were uttered by an anonymous telephone caller to the Beirut office of the French Agence France Presse news agency. He claimed to represent Al Jihad al Islami (Holy Islamic War), an organization which took responsibility for the suicide bombing of the American Embassy in the Lebanese capital last April. The man insisted that his group had carried out Sunday's bombings as well.

In Arabic, he said: "We have carried out this operation against the fortresses of fractional imperialism to prove to the world that their naval and artillery firepower does not frighten us. We are the soldiers of God and we are fond of death. We are neither Iranians nor Syrians nor Palestinians. We are Lebanese Muslims who follow the principles of the Koran."

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh dine with the High Commissioner for India and Shrimati Muhammad at Kensington Palace Gardens, 8.15.
The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Advisory Committee for the exhibition "Albert, His Life and Work", visits the exhibition at the Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, SW7, 9.45.
Princess Anne, President of the Save the Children Fund, attends the Women of Achievement luncheon

at the Dorchester Hotel, in aid of the Woman's Own and Save the Children Fund appeal for the Westminster Children's Hospital Bone Marrow Unit, 1. and as Chancellor of the University of London, visits Queen Mary College, Mile End Road, E1, 3.30.
Exhibitions in progress
Down to the Sea: Kodak Sunday Telegraph magazine competition, RPS National Centre of Photography, The Octagon, Milton Street, Bath, Mon to Sat 10 to 4.45 (until Saturday).
Work by Stephen McKenna, John Ruskin and Humphrey Spender: the

Thirties and After: Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford, Tue to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until Nov 20).
James Paterson, Moniaive, and Family Traditions, Little Art Gallery, Station Road, Millingale, Strathclyde, Tue to Fri 11 to 5, 7 to 9, Sat and Sun 2 to 5 (until Nov 20).
Work by Gerhard Merz, Fruit-market Gallery, 29 Market Street, Edinburgh: Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 (until Nov 5).
All in the Family: drawings from Brian Adams, National Gallery of Scotland, The Mount, Princes Street, Edinburgh: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (until Dec 23).
Built in Scotland: work by ten sculptors, City Art Centre, Market Street, Edinburgh: Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (until Nov 12).
Paintings of Glasgow and western seashores of Scotland, by Ken Taylor (until Nov 22); MacLaurin Art Gallery, Rozelle Park, Ayr: Mon to Sat 11 to 5.

Talks, lectures
Changing attitudes in special education, by A. G. P. Allan, Third Eye Centre, 350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, 7.30.
Music
Concert by Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Eden Court Theatre, Inverness, 7.45.
Concert by Nash Ensemble with Michael Collins (clarinet), Reardon Smith Lecture Theatre, Park Place, Cardiff, 7.30.
Organ recital by Michael Pain, Colston Hall, Colston Street, Bristol, 7.30.
Organ recital by Ronald Frost, St Ann's Church, Manchester, 12.45.
Concert by Mondrian Trio, Piano recital by Nina Vinogradova-Biek, Chichester Cathedral, 1.10.
General

Autumn Antiques Fair, Assembly Rooms, Bath, 11 to 8 (until Oct 29; last day 11 to 6).
Charity cards
Christmas cards sold on behalf of 80 national charities by the Charity Christmas Card Council are now available from Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, Monday to Friday 10 to 5.30.

Anniversaries
Birth: Thomas Babington Macaulay, Baron Macaulay, historian and politician, Rothley Temple, Leicestershire, 1800; Richard Benington, painter, Arnold, near Nottingham, 1801; Johann Strauss, composer of the Blue Danube waltz, Vienna, 1825; Georges Bizet, composer, Paris, 1838; Pablo Picasso, Málaga, Spain, 1881; Richard Byrd, explorer, Winchester, Virginia, 1888; Deaths: Geoffrey Chaucer, London, 1400; Sir Charles Hallé, pianist and conductor, Manchester, 1895; Frederick William Rolfe ("Baron Corvo"), writer (*Hadrian the Seventh*), Venice, 1913; Beadle of Agincourt, 413, English and French forces defeated the Russians at Balaclava, 1854.

Parliament today
Commons (2.30): Tennyson's Right to (Lord's) Bill, second reading. Lords (2.15): Debate on defence estimates.

TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending October 18:
1 Coronation Street (Mon), Granada, 16.20s.
2 Family Fortunes, Channel 9, 18.00s.
3 Coronation Street (Wed), Granada, 13.50s.
4 The A-Z of the Family, Thames, 13.10s.
5 The Marmalade and Wine Show, Thames, 12.50s.
6 Hardcastle and McCormick, ITV, 12.70s.
7 Give Us a Clue, Thames, 12.60s.
8 "Antony and Jerry" Concerts, ITV, 12.50s.
9 Game for a Laugh, LWT, 12.50s.
10 The Saturday Night Takeaway Show, 8.20s.
11 International Bowling, 8.55s.
12 Bob Hope Royal Gala Evening, 8.55s.
13 The Saturday Night Takeaway Show, 8.20s.
14 Fun and Games, 4.55s.
15 Tazman and the Last Safari, 3.20s.
16 News and Sport (8.45pm Sat), 8.00s.
17 The Paul Hogan Show, 2.30s.
18 The Nelson's, 1.70s.
19 The Nelson's, 1.70s.
20 The Nelson's, 1.70s.
21 The Nelson's, 1.70s.
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Radio
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General
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Roads

London and South-East: A282: Roadwork S of Dartford Tunnel under Blue Star roundabout. A25: Gully-clearing on Guildford Road between Abinger Hammer and Westcott, using alternative route. A4088: Only one lane each way at Neasden Lane/Blackbird Hill.

Midlands: M1: One carriageway shared between junctions 15 to 16 near Northampton; Rothamby services closed. M6: Lanes closed between junctions 5 to 6 (Birmingham NE to Central); Southbound entry from A38(M) (Aston expressway) closed overnight. A51: Temporary lights on bridge over M6 near Stone, Staffordshire.

North: A1: One lane only, temporary signals at Felton bypass on River Coquet Bridge, Northumberland. M62: One carriageway shared between junctions 29 (M1) to 30 (Rothwell). A1: One carriageway shared between Fairburn and Micklefield.

Wales and West: M4: Nearside lane closed, both ways between junctions 32 and 34 (Cardiff and Rhondda). A30: Temporary signals at Lewdown, Sticklepath and Yarrowcombe on Launceston to Chard Road, Devon. A39: Temporary lights either side of Waterbridge and along St Columba bypass.

Scotland: A6106: Baileyfield Road closed between Portobello Road and Duddingston Road, Edinburgh; diversion. A7: One lane only, temporary lights S of Selkirk. A82: Lanes closed on Great Western Road, Glasgow, near Cromwell Street.

Information supplied by AA

Age research auction

The Foundation for Age Research is appealing for documents, letters, diaries or photographs that offer life forgotten in the cellars, attics, drawers, safes and dead boxes of country mansions, cottages, bank vaults, solicitors' offices, warehouses or other buildings. The money raised will be used to finance research in the hope of making retirement healthier and happier.

Donors are invited to write, giving details of subject, date, condition, etc. of the items, to John Allfrey, Foundation for Age Research, 49 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4 3SQ, marking the entry "Documentary Heritage Auction".

Environment debate

The World Wildlife Fund - UK and the National Association for Environmental Education invite British secondary schools to enter "the greatest debate", a discussion of environmental issues organized as part of the British response to the World Conservation Strategy. Each school will be asked to submit a 1,500-word report on their discussions, those submitting the 10 best reports will receive £200 gift vouchers for an environmental library. Entries must be submitted by February 24, 1984. Details and project kits from the Education Department, World Wildlife Fund, Panda House, 11-13 Oakfield Road, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1QU, (04868) 20551.

Weather forecast

The anticyclone over S Britain will slowly move SE into the Continent while troughs of low pressure cross N Britain.

6 am to midnight

London, East Angles, SE, Central S England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Frost early and late, dry, sunny periods after mist or fog patches clear; wind variable, light to moderate; max temp 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

E, NW, Central N, NE England, N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man, Western, Edinburgh: Drier, sunny periods of hazy sunshine; wind SW, moderate; max temp 10 to 12C (50 to 54F).

SW England, S Wales: Dry, fog patches at first, sunny periods; wind variable, mainly SW, light, occasionally moderate; max temp 12 to 14C (54 to 57F).

Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands: Argyl, N Ireland: Cloudy, light rain or drizzle; bright intervals later; wind SW, fresh; max temp 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

Moody Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, rain, some heavy, mostly drying out; fog, wind SW, strong, gales in exposed places; max temp 11 to 13C (52 to 55F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Dry in N with overnight frost and fog. Changeable in N. Near normal temps. SEA PASSAGE: North Sea, Channel of Dover: Wind variable, becoming SW, light or moderate; sea smooth or slight. English Channel (E): Wind E, moderate; sea 1 to 2 m. Irish Sea: Wind SW, light or moderate; sea smooth or fresh, locally strong later; sea moderate.

Lighting-up time
London 5.15 pm to 8.12 am
Bristol 6.20 pm to 8.22 am
Edinburgh 5.20 pm to 8.25 am
Manchester 5.22 pm to 8.25 am
Penzance 5.22 pm to 8.25 am

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: a, about 1, b, rain, c, sun.
a C F b C F c C F
Belfast 9.48 48 10.50 50
Birmingham 9.48 48 10.50 50
Blackpool 10.50 50 11.50 52
Bristol 10.50 50 11.50 52
Cardiff 10.50 50 11.50 52
Edinburgh 12.54 54 13.54 56
Glasgow 12.54 54 13.54 56
London 12.54 54 13.54 56
Manchester 12.54 54 13.54 56
Penzance 12.54 54 13.54 56
Sheffield 12.54 54 13.54 56
Southampton 12.54 54 13.54 56
Trafalgar 12.54 54 13.54 56
Wolverhampton 12.54 54 13.54 56

Highest and lowest
Yesterday's highest day temp: Shetland, 14C (57F); lowest day temp: Lowest, 12C (54F); highest night temp: Lowest, 11C (52F); lowest night temp: Lowest, 10C (50F).

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MOON TODAY

MOON TODAY: Pressure is shown in millibars. FRONT: Warm, cold, or stationary. Symbols are as following:

High tides
London Bridge: AM 11.15, PM 5.15
Aberdeen: 2.45, 8.32, 12.41
Ayr: 1.55, 7.42, 11.51
Belfast: 1.55, 7.42, 11.51
Birmingham: 2.45, 8.32, 12.41
Bristol: 2.45, 8.32, 12.41
Cardiff: 2.45, 8.32, 12.41
Dundee: 2.45, 8.32, 12.41
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